

Haig arrives in Geneva

GENEVA, Jan. 24 (R) — U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig arrived in Geneva tonight for talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and said the meeting would take place at a time of "increasing repression" in Poland. He told reporters at the airport that it was encouraging, however, that the entire Western World placed the responsibility for the present "tension and crisis" on the Soviet Union. Mr. Haig said the talks "will provide an opportunity to express at first hand the outrage that is felt in my own country and in Western capitals as well in respect of the situation in Poland." He said they would also discuss a number of other issues including "the continuing unsatisfactory situation in Afghanistan."

Jordan Times

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Development bank loans JD 12.4 m

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — The Development Bank for Municipalities and Village Councils has given JD 12.4 million in cash last year, including JD 7.1 million as loans to local establishments, the bank's director-general, Dr. Mahdi Al-Farhan said. Dr. Farhan added that during the same period the bank granted 293 loans to be used for various purposes totalling JD 12.4 million; while the bank's expenditures in 1980 totalled JD 11.1 million, including JD 8.2 million in cash and JD 2.9 million in loans. Dr. Farhan explained that loans granted to local establishments in 1981 increased by 44.2 per cent compared to 1980.

Qaddouri leaves for Rabat

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Secretary-General Fakhri Qaddouri left for Rabat today to take part in the eighth conference of the Federation of Arab Economists which will open on Tuesday. The CAEU secretariat will submit to the five-day conference a study on the implementation of a common Arab economic action plan. Dr. Qaddouri said before departure. During his stay in Morocco, Dr. Qaddouri said he will discuss with the Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Kibi and his assistant for economic affairs subjects connected with coordination among various Arab League organisations.

Arab bankers to hold talks

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (J.T.) — The governors of Arab central banks will hold an emergency meeting in Abu Dhabi Mar. 23-24 to discuss the settlement of Arab payments. They will also hold a regular meeting in Tunis on Aug. 21. Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan Sa'id Al Nabulsi will represent Jordan in both meetings.

Australians due here today

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — An Australian parliamentary delegation is due here tomorrow on a three-day visit to Jordan. The delegation which represents the opposition Labour Party will hold talks with Jordanian officials on ways of bolstering Australian-Jordanian relations. The three-member delegation, whose visit here will be part of a Middle Eastern tour comprising Sen. Henry Sibraa, Mr. Clyde Holding, and Mr. Kim Beazley.

Asfour, Pakistanis hold trade talks

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — Talks were held at the Ministry of Industry and Trade today between a visiting Pakistani trade delegation and a Jordanian team led by Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour. The talks covered ways of bolstering bilateral trade and economic cooperation. Mr. Asfour explained to the delegation Jordan's economic structure, and facilities and exemptions offered to investors to encourage national and foreign investment in the country. Pakistan's Ambassador to Jordan Shahrayar Khan attended the meeting. Earlier, the Pakistani delegation held talks with representatives of Amman Chamber of Commerce. They discussed the establishment of joint ventures and ways of increasing exchange of trade between the two countries.

Bomb in Jerusalem dismantled

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (A.P.) — Police dismantled a bomb stashed in a garbage can in a Jewish settlement in occupied Jerusalem today the army radio reported. The report said the bomb, of medium size, was placed near a Kiosk in the settlement's commercial centre. Police chief Rahamim Confort warned the public to be alert for additional bombs.

Egypt 'will not speak for the Palestinians'

CAIRO, Jan. 24 (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said today the United States was not exerting any pressure on him to reach an agreement on Palestinian "autonomy" before the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai in April. "I have not felt pressure from anybody," he said in an interview with the mass circulation Cairo newspaper Al-Akhbar.

Mr. Mubarak told the newspaper he was not willing to make concessions on the Palestinian issue because "it is a Palestinian land and they have the right to make the first and last word on this issue."

Referring to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's planned trip here next week, he said Mr. Haig would brief him on his talks in Israel. "I wonder what new is Mr. Haig carrying," Mr. Mubarak added.

On a proposed future Egyptian-Israeli statement of principles on Palestinian self-rule, he said, "I have rejected a proposal to issue an incomplete statement." He did not say who proposed this beyond stressing it was not Mr. Haig.

Mr. Mubarak called Mr. Haig an "understanding and a responsible man with whom I deal frankly."

The Egyptian president, due to visit Washington early next month, said his talks with President Reagan would deal mainly with economic aid, running at about \$1 billion annually from the U.S. to Egypt, and the Middle East peace process.

Mr. Mubarak said he would urge the U.S. to be "more flexible in financing Egyptian economic projects."

He said if Egypt failed to execute a project financed by the U.S., "we would like the money to be transferred to another project which could be implemented."

Haig's visit

Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali told reporters that Egypt did not expect new American proposals on Palestinian autonomy during Mr. Haig's visit.

Speaking after a meeting with Mr. Mubarak, Mr. Ali said: "We

have not received any information that Mr. Haig will be carrying new ideas on Palestinian autonomy."

Mr. Haig is due to visit Israel on Wednesday and Cairo on Thursday.

The foreign minister said Mr. Haig's trip to Cairo would be short. "I don't think there will be enough time for the discussion of any new proposals."

In a separate interview published today, President Mubarak told the West German weekly Der Spiegel that Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights last month was a direct violation of the Camp David accords but should not delay the planned Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai in April.

He said he would hold talks on the Golan question during his trip to the United States and Europe next month and that it was highly probable he would visit Israel before the end of April.

Asked if he thought the annexation might delay the peace process, he said: "I have no doubt that Israel will withdraw (from the Sinai) according to plan. We are fulfilling our obligations under the accords and Israel is doing the same."

The main aim of his visit to Washington was to discuss bilateral economic and military relations, he said, adding that Egypt was anxious to pursue its friendship with the United States while maintaining its Non-Aligned position.

Mr. Mubarak did not exclude the possibility that Egypt and the Soviet Union would re-establish full diplomatic relations but said he had not yet given his attention to the matter.

Last September his predecessor, Anwar Sadat, expelled the Soviet envoy in Cairo, six other diplomats and several hundred Soviet experts.

Mr. Mubarak said that bringing the Soviet Union into the Middle East peace process at this stage would not be helpful, but he welcomed the European contribution to the international peacekeeping force for the Sinai and said "it was vital that Jordan should become involved in negotiations on Palestinian autonomy."

Upheaval in Egypt, annexation of W. Bank seen by Arens

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (A.P.) — Israel's ambassador-designate to the United States warned today that Israel must account for the possibility of a Muslim extremist coup in Egypt that could end the peace with Israel.

"Muslim fundamentalism is a wide movement with deep roots in Egypt," said Moshe Arens, who will take up his Washington post next month. "If they ever manage to gain power, that will be the end of the peace process."

On another issue, Mr. Arens said he believed that "some day" Israel will extend its legal jurisdiction to the occupied West Bank, as it did last month to the Syrian Golan Heights.

Answering questions from listeners on a radio programme, Mr. Arens said he believed President Hosni Mubarak intended to abide

by the peace treaty with Israel after the Israelis complete their evacuation of the occupied Sinai desert next April.

Mr. Arens is a hawkish politician close to Prime Minister Menachem Begin who left his job last week as chairman of the influential Foreign Affairs and Security Committee of parliament to prepare for his new assignment.

His doubts about the stability of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty contrasted sharply with the view of Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, who returned from Egypt last week confident that Israel "has nothing to worry about."

"I wouldn't go as far as Sharon," said Mr. Arens. "Egypt is not Norway or the United States. We know that there are elements of instability in that country."

Rafah Palestinians reject town's splitting

Israeli military censors ordered one deletion from the following report, according to the Associated Press.

RAFAH, Occupied Gaza Strip, Jan. 24 (A.P.) — The new frontier born of the treaty between Egypt and Israel threatens to cut this Arab town in two.

Arab townspeople here are not the only ones affected. At the southern end of the 210-kilometre frontier now being marked off, the town of Eilat stands to lose a popular holiday resort and its only five-star hotel.

The border between Gaza and the Sinai was drawn up by Turkish and British surveyors and marked with 91 stone pillars. But like the drifting desert sand that can obliterate whole highways, 15 years of Israeli military rule in the Sinai has rubbed out portions of the old border.

For the Egyptian and Israeli surveyors working together to redefine the border, the task is tricky.

It is also urgent, Israel's final

withdrawal from Sinai is only three months away.

In Rafah, a town of 80,000 Palestinian Arabs at the southern tip of the Gaza Strip, the surveyors have planted a border marker on the roof of Yehiya Zourab's water pumping plant. The well is on Egypt's side, but the pump is on the Gaza side in a separate, autonomous territory.

The line cuts Zourab's ice factory in half and divides other families and farmlands in Rafah.

The 6,000 Palestinian refugees of Canada Camp face an even worse situation. They were removed to the new camp by the Israelis in 1973 because of what was described as overcrowding in their original settlement in the Gaza Strip.

Canada Camp—named for Canadian U.N. soldiers once bivouacked there—is on the Egyptian side of the line. The Egyptians have said the Israelis will have to take the refugees back, which means moving them back into overcrowded conditions in the Gaza Strip. An Israeli official in



His Majesty King Hussein talks with Bahraini Ruler Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa during their meeting in Manama Saturday (photo by Zohrab)

Cheysson says Israeli military strengthen Soviet-Syrian ties

BEIRUT, Jan. 24 (R) — French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson said in an interview published today that Israel's growing military strength was driving Syria closer to the Soviet Union.

He told the Beirut English-language weekly magazine Monday Morning: "The fact that relations between Syria and the USSR have been strengthened by the build-up of military power in Israel is not only an argument — it is a reality."

Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam visited Moscow earlier this month and a communiqué said the two countries agreed to expand military cooperation.

The visit followed Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights. Mr. Cheysson said France had abstained in a U.N. Security Coun-

cil vote on the annexation because it did not consider the Israeli move a direct threat to world peace.

The vote, on a Jordanian-sponsored motion calling for voluntary sanctions against Israel, was blocked by a U.S. veto.

Mr. Cheysson said sanctions were the most powerful deterrent and should only be used sparingly. "We consider that this law (annexing the Golan) is null and void, should be condemned, should be censured, but we cannot consider it a threat to world peace."

On the conditions for European participation in a multinational peacekeeping force for Sinai, Mr. Cheysson said France would be bound by the terms of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, but not by the rest of the Camp David agreements.

Israel has asked France, Britain, Italy and the Netherlands to make an unequivocal commitment to Camp David before sending contingents to the Sinai force, which is due to take up positions in the peninsula when Israel completes its withdrawal in April.

Mr. Cheysson said the withdrawal could take place even if Israel refused European participation on Europe's terms.

The U.S.-sponsored Camp David agreements would have given everything they had to give by April because "we cannot imagine how Camp David could be enlarged... to address the main problem—the Palestinian people," he said.

"We feel that if a number of Arab countries agree to turn the Fahd declaration into... a basis for negotiations, this would represent remarkable progress," he added.

Endorsement of Fahd plan urged

RIYADH, Jan. 24 (A.P.) — The Saudi Arabian eight-point Middle East peace plan will "push the Arabs towards a settlement of the Palestinian case," the Saudi information minister was quoted today as saying.

"Saudi Arabia feels that it is its duty to contribute in any effort for... ending the loss and destitution suffered by our Palestinian brethren," said Dr. Moh-

ammed Abdo Yamani in an interview with the weekly newspaper Al-Asr, issued in Cyprus.

Dr. Yamani also said the kingdom and the rest of the Arabs "have their arms open to greet Egypt's return to the Arab fold" if President Hosni Mubarak returns with his policy to the Arab line.

The plan, put forward by Crown Prince Fahd last August, calls for Israeli withdrawal from Arab ter-

ritory taken during the 1967 Middle East war. It also calls for an independent Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital, and implies an Arab-wide recognition of Israel.

"The peace plan has become a pan-Arab one, and not merely a Saudi plan," Dr. Yamani said.

He said the Arabs now "have a common responsibility towards the plan."

Excerpts of the interview were distributed by the Saudi Press Agency.

Dr. Yamani said the U.S.-arranged Camp David drive between Egypt and Israel has "reached a predictable dead end" and that the Saudi peace plan was "the way out" for the Arabs.

Israeli warship sinks Lebanese fishing boats

BEIRUT, Jan. 24 (A.P.) — An Israeli warship and several gunboats escorted opened fire on seven Lebanese fishing boats inside Lebanese territorial waters, sinking two of the unarmed craft and heavily damaging the other five, press and radio reports here said today.

The Israeli military command denied the story. A spokesman today refused to say if Israeli vessels had been in the area at the time.

The raid would be the first naval attack within Lebanese waters since the United States and United Nations mediated a ceasefire July 24 that ended two weeks of artillery duels between Israel and the Palestinians in South Lebanon.

Two fishermen suffered gunshot wounds but managed to swim ashore with their colleagues after the fishing fleet had put to sea on the Mediterranean at midday yesterday from the southern Lebanese port of Tyre, the reports said.

Lebanese state radio and Beirut newspapers said that as soon as the fishermen had spread their nets the Israeli vessels appeared on the horizon and steamed into the area.

Israeli cabinet briefed on budget

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (R) — Israel's cabinet was briefed today on next year's budget of 475 billion shekels (\$30 billion), based on a forecast of 90 per cent inflation, down from the current annual figure of 101 per cent. Presenting the budget outline for 12 months from March 1982, Finance Minister Yoram Aridor warned that unless public spending were cut inflation could double, officials said. The steepest cuts were planned for education and welfare, while local defence spending, excluding foreign arms purchases, would be frozen at this year's level of 36.5 billion shekels (\$2.3 billion). The Israeli treasury expects a steady fall in the value of the currency, with the shekel losing more than 50 per cent of its value by March 1983.

Hussein assures Bahrain of support against threats

By Dina Matar
Special to the Jordan Times

visit Jordan at a date to be decided later.

AMMAN, Jan. 24 — His Majesty King Hussein returned home today after a two-day official visit to Bahrain.

Petra, the Jordanian News Agency, said King Hussein's talks with Bahrain's ruler, Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa dealt with "aspects and scopes of the current Arab situation, Arab and international developments and bolstering mutual co-operation between the two countries."

Petra quoted a telegram sent to the Bahraini ruler in which King Hussein pledged to place "all (Jordan's) resources and capabilities at the disposal of the Bahraini people to face the elements of evil, subversion and conspiracy which have attempted to shake the security and stability of Bahrain and other states in the (Gulf) region."

Petra said the two sides also discussed "positive achievements" of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC).

Radio Bahrain yesterday said that King Hussein had called for "a unified Arab stand to confront aggressors against the Arab World."

Jordan, which provides Bahrain with military aids and training, had strongly denounced an Iranian-backed coup attempt in Bahrain last month. Although Iran denied involvement in the coup attempt on Dec. 16, 60 people were arrested, and Bahrain said they confessed to the Iranian role.

Petra today said that Sheikh Issa has accepted an invitation to

The Associated Press claimed that King Hussein had cut short a previously-arranged five-state Gulf tour after receiving reports of tension along the Jordanian border with Syria. But Government officials here said the interruption "had nothing to do with the border situation."

"King Hussein had intended only to visit Bahrain, and had no other plan to tour other Gulf countries at present," they said. Before leaving Bahrain today, King Hussein and the accompanying delegation, visited the general command of the Bahraini armed forces, where they were briefed on Bahrain's military and training development. King Hussein was seen off at the airport by the Bahraini ruler, the prime minister and the crown prince as well as other high-ranking officials.

Political observers here said that King Hussein's visit, which followed similar visits to Saudi Arabia and Iraq earlier this month, was an attempt to close Arab ranks and find ways to resume an adjourned Arab summit last November in Fez, Morocco.

Returning home with the King were Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Khammash and Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

The King and the accompanying delegation were received at Amman Airport by Her Majesty Queen Noor, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and senior government officials and army officers.

GCC to define priorities

BAHRAIN, Jan. 24 (R) — Defence and finance ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council will hold meetings this week to discuss policy coordination.

The six—Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — produce about 11.5 million barrels of oil daily.

The defence ministers, who begin their two-day meeting tomorrow, were asked by their heads of state last November to define priorities of ensuring the independence and sovereignty of member countries.

They will study recommendations for joint air de-

fence systems, arms procurement policies and armament plans.

The six states, with a population of about 12 million, budgeted a total of \$30.6 billion for defence in the current year, according to the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies.

The Saudi newspaper Al-Jazeera yesterday quoted Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz as saying the ministers would also discuss a report on possible military aid to Oman.

The report was prepared by a council team which visited Oman recently to explore military and economic assistance to the country which guards the Straits of Hormuz, gateway to the Gulf.

Israeli offer to meet with Arafat attacked by Labour

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (A.P.) — Shimon Peres, chairman of the opposition Labour Party, today dissociated himself from a party member's offer to meet with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Party Spokesman Yossi Beilin said Mr. Peres had declared that no party member was authorised to meet with Mr. Arafat, and that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was not to be considered as a peacemaking partner.

He was reacting to a statement by Mr. Yossi Sarid, a dovish maverick and Labour member of parliament who said he was willing to meet with the PLO leader.

While a minority in the party favours recognising the PLO if it recognises Israel, no prominent member has ever expressed readiness to meet Mr. Arafat. The only Israeli politicians known to have met personally with Mr. Arafat are members of the Moscow-aligned Communist Party.

Mr. Sarid based his statement on a call by a European PLO representative, Issam Sartawi, for meetings between Mr. Arafat and Israeli doves.

Mr. Sarid's offer, voiced Friday, caused a stir in the party, and while the left-wing Mafam wing of Labour welcomed it, hardliners demanded Mr. Sarid be sanctioned. Mr. Michael Bar-Zohar called for Mr. Sarid's dismissal from the reactions team which formulates Labour Party public statements.

Students arrested

Israel's tough anti-Palestinian stance was illustrated anew today in a newspaper report stating that two Arab students at Jerusalem's Hebrew University were under arrest for possession of PLO literature.

The daily Yediot Ahronot said Fatma Abboud, 22 and Waddad Amin, 23, were arrested Jan. 11 but the action was kept secret until last Friday, when the two women were brought before a judge to have their custody extended by 15 days.

A police spokesman could not be reached by telephone for comment.

Yediot quoted inspector Shlomo Harel as telling the court an extensive investigation was underway into how the material reached the students and whether they meant to distribute it. He said possession of PLO literature was a violation of Israel's anti-terrorist act, Yediot reported.

Mr. Harel was quoted as saying the material included calls for violent opposition to Israeli rule, support for the PLO and the carrying of weapons.

NATIONAL

Dim picture in GUVS survey of services to the handicapped

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — The private sector in the East Bank of Jordan sponsors 16 institutions that offer welfare services to 1432 handicapped persons, according to a survey released here today.

The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) said in a statistical survey of private sector establishments for the handicapped, operating in the country in 1981, that only 248 handicapped persons live in boarding houses provided by the sponsors. The Cerebral Palsy Centre at the King Hussein Medical City offered treatment to 586 persons, the survey said.

The survey also revealed that both the private and public sectors provide social and educational

services to no more than 2,000 of the estimated 35,000-40,000 handicapped persons in the country.

It also showed that most of the handicapped, who benefitted from welfare services, were between five and 14 years of age.

This indicates that a large number of handicapped children in pre-school age lack "any kind of objective care and welfare," the survey said.

It called for the establishment of a "wide network" of kindergartens to cater for handicapped children.

According to the study, most of the country's 261 workers employed by rehabilitation centres are under-qualified.

It suggests that special "intensified educational programmes" be drawn up to give proper qualification to workers and to raise the standard of staffs at such institutions.

The study is designed to acquaint philanthropic societies and those concerned with re-

habilitating handicapped people with the size and nature of disability in Jordan.

The study will also help those supervising the process of rehabilitating handicapped people in their programmes and in developing better services to disabled people in the country.

Today's Weather

It will be partly cloudy, with scattered showers in the eastern and southern parts of the country. Winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba it will be partly cloudy with scattered showers, and the winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	6	17
Aqaba	9	20
Deserts	4	16
Jordan Valley	13	21

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 17, Aqaba 20. Humidity readings: Amman 57 per cent, Aqaba 47 per cent.

Foreign students number 583

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (J.T.) — The number of Arab and foreign male and female students in the University of Jordan this year amounts to 583 students from Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Morocco, Qatar, Palestine, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Libya, Iran, the United States, Yugoslavia, Yemen, China, Britain, Kuwait, Indonesia, Thailand, Sudan, Turkey, Tunis,

Pakistan, Korea, Bulgaria, Brazil, Spain, Philippines and Algeria. These students are currently studying at the different faculties of the university.

Sharif off to Mecca

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Kamel Al Sharif left Amman for Saudi Arabia this evening to participate in the meetings of the 7th session of the International Council of Mosques, which will begin in Mecca on Tuesday.

During its weeklong meetings, the council will discuss important Islamic issues related to mosques, the conditions of the Islamic holy places in the occupied territories and the practices of the Israeli occupation authorities against these holy places.

To deepen democratic sense

New law to enhance popular participation

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment today referred to the cabinet a new draft law regulating village councils in the country.

The ministry requested early debate and approval of the draft law, which it said was designed to boost popular participation in local government.

Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani said the draft law would stipulate that village councils be elected, rather than appointed by the government, as the case is in the currently-applied law, and that women be given the right to vote in council elections.

This would "deepen the citizen's democratic sense," he said. He said the new law falls in line with the government's intention to put in force a local government system that would achieve administrative decentralisation in the powers entrusted to the village councils.

Mr. Momani said the new draft law would also enable village councils to attract qualified people to

work in the rural areas and create administrative and technical cadres in the councils to upgrade organisation, planning, implementation and environment control.

The new draft law would also bridge the gap between city and village services, he said.

The new draft law would give village councils vast powers in the management of village affairs, which include almost all public utilities, as well as organisational powers, he added.

A total of 270 village councils will benefit from the new law which will replace the present law enacted 28 years ago, the minister said.

He added that the many changes in, and great expansion of, public services had warranted the enactment of a new law that would cater for the various needs of the villages and try to solve their problems.



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NATIONAL

Rescue dig mounted at Neolithic site

Finds lengthen known Amman history

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A hillside a few kilometres outside Amman became the site, a few days ago, of an urgent archaeological campaign to save the remains of the earliest known village ever found in the area.

Dating back over 9,000 years into the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B (PPNB) period, the site at 'Ain Ghazal, situated opposite the sewage treatment plant in Marka, is comparable — in terms of size and cultural development — to the early stages of the important sites at Jericho and Beidha. Thus it extends the known cultural use of the Amman area farther back than anything previous projects have been able to investigate.

The site first came to light some eight years ago. At that time, the builders of the Amman-Zarqa highway drilled their way through the mountain where the site had lain undisturbed since the seventh millennium B.C. There, clearly visible on the newly-exposed rock face, were the lines of ancient plastered floors.

The site was then left alone again until four months ago, when its very existence became threatened. Much of it was irreparably damaged as shops, garages and a car park started to be built over it. Dr. Mohammad Khair Yassin, professor of archaeology at the University of Jordan, informed his friend and colleague Dr. Albert Leonard of the site, and following a visit to the remains of the ancient villages with Director General of Antiquities Adnan Hadidi it became clear that a salvage excavation was of the utmost priority.

A team was quickly gathered together, and as luck would have it, the archaeologists who were available for the dig were all experts in the various disciplines this site would call for. Co-directing the excavation is Dr. Gary Rollefson, who is not only the annual professor at the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR) this year but is also an expert in lithic analysis — the study of how stone, especially flints, were made into tools and how these methods of manufacture changed through time.

Dr. Leonard, the other co-director, is in Jordan on a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship doing research in the Jordan Valley, having been granted a year's leave from his work at the University of Missouri. His specialty is early village life.

On top of a good staff of three very experienced square supervisors, there are available the expert services of ACOR Director David McCreery, for the analysis of paleobotanical material found on the site; of ACOR Administrative Assistant Scott Rolston for the study of human bones; of Dr. Lisa Koehler for the study of animal bones, and of Mrs. Susan Balderstone for site surveying.

The excavation is being funded mainly by the Department of Antiquities, while ACOR is putting at the disposal of the team its equipment, its building for the processing of the material and the time of its personnel. Helping the archaeologists with the work of excavating are two experienced Department of Antiquities employees — Khaled Abu Ghaneim and Museif Al Abed — as well as 34 volunteers from the Friends of Archaeology.

Stable community

On the basis of a preliminary survey the team has already established some facts about the site, which covers an area of 500 by 400 metres. "The village," Dr. Rollefson said, "was occupied continuously for at least 500 years; but it may have been for as long as 1,000 years. It was a very stable community."

Under the three houses so far examined, three human burials were discovered. Similar to those found at Jericho, these burials will give the researchers some idea into these people's ceremonial practices and possible religious outlook. Because a burial was found under each house excavated, the diggers are very hopeful that they will find many more.

The floors of the houses themselves are also of great interest, as the team discovered that they had been covered with a red mineral that was polished when wet to give a shiny finish. Some of the floors have been replastered as many as four times. On top of one of them a possible domestic scene was uncovered: there were a grinding stone and the delicate burned charcoal remnants of what



Drs. Gary Rollefson (left) and Albert Leonard examine the cross section of a Neolithic floor exposed by a highway builder's bulldozer

looks to be a woven mat. If this proves to be the case, this matting will indicate some of the earliest evidence of weaving.

Preliminary measurements of the buildings also suggest that they are among the largest ever to be

the site at Beidha — where they found a butcher's shop and a stone jeweller's shop in an area that could perhaps be considered the earliest known souq — has revealed indications that there were specialists during this period.

which will, it is hoped, validate all suppositions as well as giving the researchers some idea of the history of the people who made 'Ain Ghazal their home so many centuries ago. Analysis of the fossil pollen found on site will give an indication as to the kind of weather and environment they experienced, while the study of the abundant and well-preserved animal bones will give an idea of their diet, what they preferred to hunt and how they butchered the animals. This latter study will show whether the method they used differed from the methods used later in history or in different places.

"Before this time everyone was self-sufficient; but in the PPNB we see for the first time the evidence of trading. If one person was making bracelets in exchange for food, then you can deduce that another person was a specialist at growing food, and so on."

In the short four-week season the team hopes to sink a number of probes, the evidence from

There are no sophisticated artifacts like pottery or gold on the site, Dr. Leonard emphasised. But an intensive study of the stone tools found, will enable the researchers to discover how much these people had to rely on hunting, while the analysis of preserved seeds will likewise det-



Volunteer archaeology enthusiasts lend a hand at the digging

ermine how much they relied on wild fruits and crops as opposed to the ones they cultivated. It is known that the earliest phase of farming opposed to the ones they cultivated. It is known that the earliest phases of farming took place in the preceding period, PPNB, so this PPNB site was sure to have some domesticated crops.

The team also hopes, during this season and the ones to follow, that it will be able to establish a detailed picture of how the landscape looked and what kind of plants and climatic conditions existed 9,000 years ago in the Amman area. "In a very important sense 'Ain Ghazal is a unique site," Dr. Rollefson went on to explain, "in that it occupies a transitional zone

in environment between what was probably forest area and meagre grassland. This sets it apart from the lower elevations, and the different climatic and environmental conditions the existed at Jericho and Beidha."

The site seems unique in many other ways too — right down from its perfect, textbook-like stratification to the excellently preserved charcoal specimens, which means the team will be able to have specific dates for every stage of occupation. These facts, plus the purely accidental presence of all the required experts and the good weather for the time of year (excavation usually takes place in the summer, but because the site was being threatened 'Ain Ghazal had to be excavated as quickly as possible) — all combine to make 'Ain Ghazal the perfect site.

The Department of Antiquities has halted all development projects that might affect the site, and has promised support for future excavation in what is planned to be a multi-seasonal project. But the team hopes that this season's work will provide enough information to prompt interest, and thus funding, from international institutions — so that the diggers can be assured not only of many more seasons at 'Ain Ghazal, but of mounting larger projects which would give a chance of field experience to many archaeological students from Jordan, Europe and the United States.

Ultimately, Dr. Rollefson sees the site developing into a tourist attraction where small day-to-day scenes in the lives of the ancient villagers could be reconstructed. In this way the public's interest could be aroused in the generally overlooked and little understood prehistoric periods of Jordan's cultural heritage.



The dig co-directors hold the remains of a plaster bowl found at the site



The dig site is located on the Zarqa highway, across from the sewage treatment plant (Photos by Rami G. Khouri)

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Qasem receives Algerian, Soviet envoys

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — The ambassadors of Algeria and the Soviet Union in Amman, Ahmad Laidi and Rafeek Nishanov conferred separately here today with Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem. They discussed their countries' relations with Jordan.

Madaba council approves 1982 budget

MADABA, Jan. 24 (Petra) — The Madaba municipal council today approved the municipality's JD 650,000 fiscal budget for 1982. Approval came at a meeting chaired by Mayor Ahmad Al Azaydeh, during which various aspects of the budget were discussed. The budget provides for the purchase of 100 dunums of land for the establishment of an industrial zone and children park, as well as the construction and asphaltting of several roads, Mr. Azaydeh said.

Future architects to visit Spain

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (J.T.) — A group of architecture students from University of Jordan Faculty of Engineering and Technology will pay a scientific visit to Spain. During the two-week visit, the students will get acquainted with Islamic and Spanish architecture.

ACC gives Karak farmers JD 670,500

KARAK, Jan. 24 (Petra) — A total of JD 670,500 was given in loans to farmers in Karak Governorate by the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) in the past year, according to ACC branch director Khaled Al Majali. He said that 235 farmers were granted these loans to finance projects such as irrigation, establishing poultry and sheep farms, the purchase of farm equipment and the construction of homes.

UNRWA gets EEC flour, milk

AQABA, Jan. 24 (Petra) — Shipments of flour and skimmed milk, weighing 1128.5 tonnes and 150 tonnes respectively, have arrived here as a gift from the European Economic Community to UNRWA, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees to be distributed as part of the agency's relief programme to the refugees in Jordan.

Labour aide to attend ALO meeting

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — Labour Ministry Under-Secretary Tayseer Abdul Jabbar left for Baghdad today to attend the Arab Labour Organisation's (ALO) board meeting which starts there tomorrow. During the four-day meeting the board will discuss ALO programmes for the next two years and its 1982 budget. Dr. Abdul Jabbar said. The board will also explore the possibility of establishing a pan-Arab occupation safety institute.

Labour course starts in Irbid

IRBID, Jan. 24 (Petra) — The Labour Education Institute here opened a 10-day course today to orient labourers on labour legislations, social security, public safety for labourers and the development of the labour movement in Jordan. Thirty persons are taking part in the course which is the first in a series of six courses the institute plans to hold in Irbid Governorate this year.

Kuwaiti students see university

AMMAN, Jan. 24 (Petra) — A delegation of Kuwaiti students today visited the University of Jordan. The delegation members saw a documentary film on the university's development and activities. The 35-member delegation, drawn from Kuwait's intermediate educational institutions will also visit Yarmouk University, other educational centres and archaeological sites in Jordan during their week-long stay in the country.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Lecture

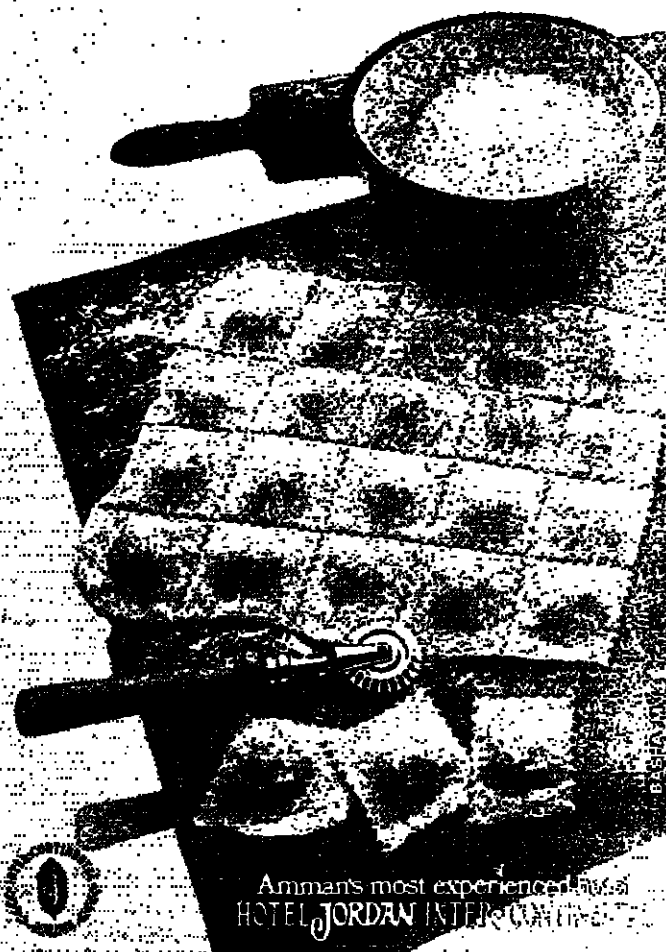
* Dr. Kenneth Linder, a visiting U.S. lecturer, will speak on "The Relevance of U.S. Educational Institutions to National Development," at the American Centre at 4 p.m.

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DE FACTONOMICS

Turning financial to real investment

By T.A. Jaber

The financial market in Jordan has witnessed remarkable growth in the last few years. The Amman Stock Exchange started its operation very modestly in January 1978 but has become in four years one of the main features of the Jordanian economy.

Many insurance companies have been established, which in itself increased competitiveness and accordingly improved the service. Yet another type of financial institution is increasingly coming up, namely the investment corporations, i.e. banks or houses.

With the creation of the varied institutions, financial intermediaries have also come about, such as brokers and securities establishments.

The full effect of the interplay of these recently established institutions on the financial market is not yet clear. This will need more time during which some of the present institutions may undergo certain changes while new ones may still be created. A deeper study is needed to analyse our financial market. In this article, I shall highlight some of its

numerous aspects.

To start with, it seems much easier to invest in other people's shares and in government bonds than to take the risk of creating industrial or other directly-productive projects. Not everyone has enough capital or time to do the latter either alone or even in partnership with others. The most crucial shortage is in feasible projects which can compete with other investment opportunities, particularly real estate, commerce and more recently shares.

This kind of thought may help explain the new tendency to establish more financial or investment corporations. If you have a good name in the market, or were a senior government official, you can easily lead a number of founders and possibly head a new corporation.

Mobilisation of capital is no longer a constraint, nor the operation of these corporations if they intend to invest in shares and real estate.

Accordingly, in addition to the liquidity which the individual citizens can spare for financial investments, there is

an increasing volume of corporate liquidity. Wider awareness among the public of the profit opportunities has been another factor contributing to the hyperactivity of the Amman Stock Exchange (ASE).

1981 was not unprecedented in the short period since the establishment of the ASE. Total trading volume in shares amounted to JD 74 million and JD 2 million in government bonds plus trading over the counter of JD 6 million. Thus, financial investment has become part of our daily life.

Much more amazing is the share price index in the second half of 1981. Based on January 1978, the index increased to about 270 by end of 1981 at an average rate of 40 annually. The increase was mainly in insurance companies, banks and manufacturing and mining companies.

If the share price index may be used in Jordan to indicate the level of economic activity, then 1981 must have been a flourishing year. Economic expansion was not only reflected in the trading volume in the secondary market, it was more so

in the primary market where 18 companies (out of which 14 were new and four expanded their capital) were more than subscribed by the public. While the total capital of these companies for public offering amounted to JD 72 million, the subscription was JD 82 million.

This is an evidence of the viability of the ASE not only as a secondary trading market, but also as a channel for mobilising capital for new real investments.

It indicates that the opportunity for financing new projects is available and, with the overall stability which Jordan enjoys, our people are prepared to invest more in new projects. To accelerate our development, we need to come up, on a continuous basis, with feasible projects particularly in manufacturing and agriculture.

I have stated that it is relatively easy to mobilise capital for a new insurance company or a financial corporation. However, with the security of personnel in these fields, problems of operation and management of these corporations will arise.

More important for our purposes, is the ability of these corporations to identify new areas of investment in addition to the familiar ones of land, housing, office buildings, and shares. They should organise and undertake studies which will identify feasible projects and real investment opportunities.

The second five-year development plan could provide investors with helpful information on the development priorities in general and the new projects to be implemented by the public sector. However, until now the plan document has not yet been published and sources of information on the details of the plan are very limited, particularly for public use.

The financial market in Jordan has proved its viability and operated smoothly. It is expected to witness further expansion. This is an achievement in itself. The challenge for this market remains to be adequately met, namely, how to mobilise more capital and to turn financial to real investment.

What's your entity?

UNITED STATES Senator Charles Percy, who has just completed a long tour of more than a dozen countries in the Middle East, has made some reasonable statements about the need to create a Palestinian "homeland" as part of a lasting Middle Eastern peace accord. His exact words were: "There will never be peace in the Middle East until there is a Palestinian homeland, an entity the Palestinians can call their own. And it must embrace essentially the Gaza Strip and the West Bank."

Senator Percy's words are testament to one of the finer aspects of American life -- the ability of free individuals to learn the facts and act accordingly. But his attitude strikes us as less than enthusiastic about granting the Palestinians the same rights than he wants the Arabs to grant to the Israelis -- the right to live in a sovereign state recognised by its neighbours. We sense a certain hesitation in Mr. Percy's words. He talks of "homeland" and "entity". Why does he not come right out and say that the Palestinians should have a fully free and sovereign state on an equal footing with Lesotho and the Republic of the Maldives? What is it about Palestinians that causes American officials to dilute their concept of freedom for all people with certain restrictions and exemptions?

Mr. Percy's words are nevertheless encouraging. But he is still too delicate in his vocabulary to be fully convincing. The Palestinians have not struggled for so long to be granted an "entity". They are entitled to the full rights of a free and sovereign people. The sooner that concept is fully grasped by American officials, the sooner that all people in the Middle East can aspire to true peace. Freedom, as the Americans tell us so often, is indivisible. For Americans and for Arabs.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Diligent action

AL RA'I: His Majesty King Hussein's talks with the Bahraini Amir and officials is part of Jordan's diligent action in the Arab arena. It is clear that this Jordanian step stems from Jordan's adherence to its pan-Arab commitment and responsibility to establish Arab solidarity. All King Hussein's past and current visits and contacts are part of Jordan's continuous efforts which the King keeps up in an attempt to establish an Arab front that can confront the challenges facing the Arabs.

Jordan has always stressed that the Arabs have no alternative but to build their intrinsic strength if they are serious in their efforts to restore their rights, defend their existence and secure freedom and stability for their future generations. Current affairs have proved beyond any doubt that the weak people's justice does not give them immunity against aggression and that their complaining does not restore to them what the aggressor usurped.

Therefore, attempts that might erupt to widen the gaps in the Arab ranks and to sap efforts and obstruct the establishment of solidarity will never be excused or justified. The current Arab situation demands the mobilisation of efforts, not squandering them, to save the Arab situation from what it is suffering now. We hope that all the Arab brethren will participate in realising this goal without delay.

Further aggression

AL DUSTOUR: The circumstances involving the Arab-Israeli conflict in these days indicate that Israel will launch an attack in order to melt the ice that surrounded the desperate attempts to impose capitulation on the Arab World following the Camp David agreements and the Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement.

Although Israel has succeeded in taking Egypt from the Arab fold, it has not been able to impose capitulation on the Arabs. The failure of autonomy talks has proved that the steadfastness of other Arab fronts is capable of protecting the Arab situation against complete deterioration -- a thing Israel hoped would take place after the signing of the peace agreement.

Egypt's departure from the Arab fold has always been Israel's strategic goal, but the deteriorating relations among the Arab states is more of a temptation for Israel to do something, particularly because there are some Israeli leaders who are notorious for their intransigence and belligerence. The Israelis are stronger than ever, and their aggressive military strength is the only tool the Israeli leaders can use to make up for the political failure of the Camp David agreement.

Israel has the advantage of exploiting the abnormal situation in Lebanon. Israel began to magnify and exaggerate the strength of the Palestinian resistance in Southern Lebanon in a bid to convince the world that it is being threatened by this force. It has also fabricated the Syrian missile crisis and still nurtures this issue in order to pave the way for a new aggression.

In light of all this, the Arabs must prepare themselves for a confrontation by building the Arab political and military strength.

Uneasy lies the head that rules the E.E.C.

By Roger Cohen

Brussels, Reuter -- The new president of the peripatetic European parliament, dubbed a travelling circus by its critics, is faced with polishing its tarnished image before elections in 1984.

Some parliamentarians are clearly worried that the assembly has had little impact on the citizens of the European Common Market who chose its members in the first direct elections in 1979.

"We have a duty to our 100 million electors to achieve greater power before the 1984 elections. We cannot close down like a grocer's shop," socialist member and former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt said in a recent parliamentary speech.

There is also concern that reports of empty chambers, extravagance and waste have dented the image of a parliament of which the itinerant existence is estimated as costing the EEC an extra \$40 million a year.

Parliamentarians say that to reverse this the new president must put an end to the situation whereby the parliament's work is split between Luxembourg, Strasbourg and Brussels. This involves the cost of transporting 700 trucks of documents by lorry each month.

The president will also have to snuff persistent talk of extravagance, centring on the cost of the parliament's many buildings, champagne receptions for travelling delegations and liberal expenses charged by members. As to the parliament's influence, members are looking to the new president to strengthen its role vis-a-vis the EEC council of ministers. At the moment parliament's job is to propose amendments to EEC commission directives before these are submitted to ministers. It also produces reports reviewing all aspects of EEC policy.

Although its role is mainly advisory, it can dismiss the 14-member commission, something it has never done.

It can also throw out the whole EEC budget by an absolute majority vote, as it did for the first and only time in the case of the 1980 budget. It has the final say, within specified limits, on spending in such areas as energy and regional development, accounting for about 25 per cent of the budget. When these limits are exceeded, as happened in the past two years, conflict with the market's other institutions can ensue.

The parliament's first president, Emilio Colombo, Italy's current Christian Democratic foreign minister, and West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher have both urged a stronger role for the assembly under the terms of a proposed treaty of European union.

Ministers seem to want to involve the assembly more but will not, in the near future, meet Mrs. Veil's demands for power to veto ministerial decisions and propose EEC legislation.

Making or breaking French economy?

Will President Mitterrand's radical policies put France in the forefront of world industry? Or will they damage an economy that was running smoothly before the Socialists came to power? Terry Dodsworth reports.

"I am doing with nationalisation what de Gaulle did for nuclear defence. I am giving France its economic strike force." -- President Mitterrand.

"This is the first time I have seen an economy that was working extremely well being systematically dismantled. It's a textbook example of fixing something that was not broken." -- American businessman.

The two kinds of economic thinking summarised in these statements lie at the heart of the debate that is currently raging in France over the new industrial policy being ushered in by the Socialists.

On the Left stands the interventionist camp clustered around President Mitterrand, firmly convinced that the guiding hand of the state is needed to propel the country into a new age of full employment, high technology and increased leisure.

On the Right are massed the so-called liberals, preaching the virtues of the market system, French specialisation and an industry whose hands are free to respond to the dictates of international competition.

The question the socialists have to answer with their new industrial policy is essentially the one posed by the American businessman: why redesign an economic system that is in good working order, that has carried France through the oil price crisis better than most of its rivals, and that has established the country as the world's fourth or fifth ranking exporter?

The Government's response to these objections is best summed up by Mr. Alain Boubill, a bubbling 36-year-old guru on industrial policy who is now firmly ensconced in a wing of the Elysee Palace. Mr. Boubill does not deny the achievements of French industry under conservative governments over the last 20 years. But he argues that it has missed a crucial turning point that can best be remedied by state intervention.

Mr. Boubill's analysis is based on what he regards as a vital change in the trading environment in the mid-1970s.

At that time, he says, two important phenomena emerged. First, the internationalisation of trade unleashed in the 1960s reached a reasonable degree of maturity, imposing fresh competitive standards; secondly, the electronics revolution began to make a deep impact, putting a premium on new technology across the full range of industry.

The combination of these two factors, he argues, meant a shift from an economy led by demand to one in which costs and quality have become all-important. To this extent, he says, the French socialists are "supply siders." They intend to lean on investment as the lever through which to stimulate both structural change in industry and the latent demand for competitive products.

"Ten years ago, all you had to do was to build a factory and the demand was there. Today, you have to supply at the right price. This is what the Japanese have realised."

According to the socialists, the weaknesses of the last government's policies showed up in two particular areas -- the dra-

matic rise in unemployment (now standing at 2 million), and the steadily deteriorating terms in France's trade.

Indeed, far from ignoring the issue of competitiveness, as their opponents sometimes claim, Socialist planners are alarmed by the signs that French industry is marking time.

They point accusingly to the gradual increase in foreign penetration of the domestic market, and the consistent failure of French companies to increase exports to sophisticated industrial countries. This trend is seen as tangible evidence of a steady stagnation in product quality and competitive prices.

The key to breaking this circle, they say, is not to cut and trim like the last government. What is needed is a more positive response to develop new products, modernise production methods, develop better machine tools and so on. Hence the enormous boost that is being given to the research budget (rising this year by about 30 per cent), and to funds for industrial investment and training.

Investment is the central element in this process because it is here, the socialists claim, that industry has failed France over the last few years. According to government figures, French private companies have cut their spending by an average of about one per cent a year in the four years to 1980; expenditure went up in only one year -- 1980 -- and then dropped savagely again in 1981 by 11.5 per cent.

This fall in investment, says Mr. Boubill, explains the failure of French industry to adapt as quickly to technological change as its main industrial rivals in the U.S. and Japan. Both of these countries created more jobs, totally and proportionally, in the latter half of the 1970s -- 12 million in the U.S. and 3.3 million in Japan, against only 500,000 in France.

But, the American businessman might respond, what about the former government's attempts to make French industry more internationally competitive? What about the special plans for encouraging new industries like robotics, office equipment and microchips, to say nothing of the space programme, the telecommunications industry, the TGV high speed train and the electronic telephone directory? By contrast with this activity, the socialists seem to be driving towards a job preserving system in which nationalisation is a talisman serving nothing but party dogma.

Mr. Boubill has two main answers to this line of criticism. First, he says, nationalisation will reinforce the positive elements in the previous government's programme. The French industries which impress foreigners, he argues, are invariably those, such as telecommunications and nuclear power, that are already run by state.

Through nationalisation the same principle is now to be applied over a wider area of industry. The banks, accused of progressively siphoning more of their funds into non-productive, low-risk areas like property, will be asked to mobilise this idle capital to get the wheels of industry tur-

ning; and the big industrial companies being taken into the state sector will be encouraged to take a less cautious attitude to new technology.

As a result, the government should be able to ensure that France plunges further and faster in the technological revolution in strategic areas like consumer and industrial electronics (where 42 per cent of the country's economy will be in state hands).

Mr. Boubill's second point underlines a radical change in official thinking about the traditional industries -- the sectors that the last Government was determined to shake up, even at the cost of exacerbating unemployment. The old policy of hyper-specialisation, aimed at concentrating resources on chosen "new" technologies, while forcing the traditional industries to rationalise and reform themselves, has been thrown out lock, stock and barrel. There are to be no "condemned sectors" in socialist France.

"Take the French shoe industry, for example," says Mr. Boubill. "You can make shoes in old factories, using out-of-date machines and traditional methods. Or you can use computer design, advanced numerically-controlled machines and modern methods. If you do the latter, you can be competitive in France."

The danger of this approach is that resources could be poured into hopelessly doomed companies purely to save jobs. But the Socialists base their policy on a broader view of industrial change than that which tended to be projected by the last government.

Technology, they say, is a tool which is applicable everywhere, not only in the so-called advanced sectors. It is only through additional investment in these decaying industries that they can be hauled up to internationally competitive levels.

This policy shift lies behind the recent flurry of interventions launched by the Industry Ministry to reconquer the domestic market in the leather industry, wood-based manufacturing, toys and machine tools.

More of these projects will undoubtedly follow, based on a variety of new instruments to stimulate growth. On the demand side there will be new public buying programmes and attempts to persuade French companies to buy from domestic suppliers. On the supply side, cheap investment funds, often linked to developing the work force, are being set aside, while research spending is being stepped up.

The clear element of nationalistic -- even Gaullist -- tub

thumping in these projects has inevitably attracted suspicion from France's trading partners. Indeed, the socialists make no bones about the fact that they are no longer going to play the "liberal" game unconditionally. They are not aiming to put up trade barriers. But they totally reject the type of de-industrialisation that has gone on in Britain over the past few years by leaving industry to fend for itself in an unfavourable climate.

The policy implies, however, an enormous gamble: will the Government be able to get the necessary investment to reduce unemployment at a rate that is acceptable to its supporters?

Socialist planners say that between FF 25 billion and FF 40 billion a year (a little under half of this year's planned budget deficit) needs to be injected into investment, research and training over the next five years to achieve their aims. But since the elections, private industry has sunk into a mood of sullen obstruction in response to the Government's labour-oriented policies and new taxes.

This passive resistance from much of the French backwoods *patronat* is one of the reasons why the Government is so anxious to push through the Nationalisation Bill as quickly as possible. It needs to start investment rolling in the new state companies by the spring in order to maintain the growth in the economy which started with the injection of new buying power last summer. If it can create this dynamic current, private industry will join it, exports will be carried along by the text upswing in the world economy, and President Mitterrand can coast home for his seven-year term.

The reverse of this optimistic scenario is the kind of economic Armageddon imagined by the American businessman. "I believe that the government may well fail to take sufficient account of the enormous competitive pressures in international markets as it tries to reorganise industry."

"Instead of going down, unemployment could go up, the government will be forced to do things that are uneconomic, and the competitiveness of French companies will drop sharply. And then there will be no way out: the barriers will have to go up all around the country."

Either way, French industry is heading into exciting new territory.

Financial Times news feature

East Germany was quick to support the peace movement in the West, but the authorities are not so happy about home-grown pacifism.

Shove thy neighbour

By Leslie Collitt

East Germany is trying to suppress a growing peace movement inspired by the demonstrations in West Germany which were given enthusiastic support by the East Berlin government.

Young East German Christians have been told to remove badges from their jackets bearing the words: "Swords into ploughshares." The emblems were made by the East German Protestant Church which is in the forefront of the peace movement.

The authorities believe they cannot tolerate a home-grown movement which condemns the arms race and nuclear weapons in both West and East. In several East German cities, teenagers wearing the ploughshares emblem were ordered by their teachers to remove them as they were a "negative influence" on young men facing military service.

State security officials stopped many wearers of the emblems on the street, telling them they were contrary to East Germany's "peace policy."

The Communist Party newspaper Neues Deutschland cleared up any last doubts when it said "naturally the defensive forces of the Soviet Union cannot do without the atom bomb. Should one invite the imperialists to wipe out Socialism from the face of the earth?"

Supporters of the West German peace movement visiting East Germany have discovered they have no right to advocate pacifism in the East. They have been ordered to remove the car stickers popular in West Germany which proclaim "Frieden schaffen ohne Waffen" (Make Peace Without Weapons).

One West Berlin woman whose car bore a peace sticker was subjected to a minute search at the border and told to remove the offending slogan. When she ventured to ask what was wrong with peace in the world without weapons, a border guard snapped back: "Without weapons?"

The official Soviet and thus East German opposition to any spill-over of pacifism into Eastern Europe is based on the concept of the "just war" in the cause of defending the Communist system.

East Germany recently allowed one of its most prominent and critical writers, Stephan Hermlin, to organise an East-West writers meeting in the capital on "the promotion of peace." A condition set by the authorities was that it would be closed to the public.

Herr Hermlin stipulated that opposition writers in East Germany be allowed to attend along with several East German writers living in the West. This was balanced by the presence of Herr Klaus Fuchs, the former Soviet nuclear spy who served nine years of a 14-year espionage sentence in Britain.

The public was given only a brief filtered version in party newspapers of what transpired at the two-day conference, although transcripts of the proceedings are circulating surreptitiously in East Germany after being recorded from Western radio broadcasts.

At the peace conference, Herr Stefan Heym, the East German writer whose books are only published in the West, noted that "today there no longer is a just war, as there are no just atomic bombs. The SS-20 is as unjust as the Pershing II."

His colleague, Herr Gunter de Bruyn, said the East German government, which has sought to ally itself with the Western peace movement, "is preventing the anti-war struggle by Christians, pacifists and conscientious objectors within its own borders."

Herr Fuchs replied that the demand by Roman Catholics and Protestants in East Germany for a "social peace service" as an alternative to regular army service would amount to a "unilateral disarmament" by East Germany which was not in the "interests of peace."

Possibly the remark most relished by the many East Germans who have heard or read the transcripts was made by Herr Heym, who offered to take part in a "peace demonstration on the Alexanderplatz" in East Berlin if the government would permit one.

"And I am certain the silent majority in this country would take part," he added.

Far from permitting such a peace demonstration, however, the East German government has instructed the media to tone down coverage of the peace movement in the West.

Financial Times news feature

LETTERS

To the Editor

I refer to your article Banking Boom in Jordan which appeared on page 4 of the Jordan Times issued on 20 January 1982.

We shall be grateful if you will publish a correction to the first paragraph of the article which states "until 1955 there were only two banks in operation: The Ottoman Bank and the Arab Bank".

The British Bank of the Middle East established its first office in Jordan in September 1949.

A.D.E. Dawson
Area Manager Jordan
The British Bank of the Middle East

ECONOMY

Iraqi oil sales increase

NICOSIA, Jan. 24 (A.P.) — Iraq has had "considerable success in lining up crude oil sales for this year with both old and new customers" a middle east oil journal reported today.

Among those who have either concluded new contracts for 1982, or are continuing with existing lifting arrangements are a group of Japanese companies, Brazil's Petrosbras, Italy's ENI, CFP of France, Britain's B.P., the Shell group and Mobil and Ashland Oil of the United States reported the Middle

East Economic Survey (MEES).

MEES said the Japanese customers have been lifting Iraqi crude under two different types of contract: one known as Government to Government (GG) and the other as Direct Deal (DD).

It added that in 1981 the GG volume was 30,000 barrels a day "and it has now apparently been agreed to increase this volume to 40,000 barrels a day for the first quarter of 1982 and 50,000 for the second quarter."

As for the DD contract this is expected to increase from an average of 90,000 barrels a day during the second half of 1981, to "something like 165,000 barrels a day for 1982."

MEES said "it seems" the Iraqis have offered a significant price concession of "something like \$1.50 a barrel" to the Japanese to compensate them for the extra cost involved in their lifting oil from Mediterranean terminals instead of from Iraq's Gulf terminals that have been shut by the Iraq-Iran war.

Moscow's silence on grain harvest puzzles West

MOSCOW, Jan. 24 (R) — The Soviet Union's omission of the size of its grain harvest from official statistics on its economic performance in 1981 puzzled Western experts today.

Soviet officials admit that the harvest was hit by "extremely unfavourable weather conditions". But the experts were cautious not to conclude that there had been a catastrophe.

Western diplomats suggested Moscow might be wary of driving up prices on world markets while it is still buying or that it was ex-

ercising prudence about the size of its stocks while it is threatened with U.S. sanctions over Poland. The statistics published by newspapers today said reserves provided for the nation's bread needs but gave no hint of the 1981 yield of corn, wheat, barley or rye.

The silence broke with recent Soviet practice. It followed a mid-year drought and American forecasts that the crop would be as low as 175 million tonnes which would need to be topped up with imports of 42 million tonnes.

The scant details given pointed to disastrous results in other sectors of agriculture. The 60.6 million tonnes of sugar beet produced and the 4.6 million tonnes yield of sunflower seed — a vital source of cooking oil in the Soviet Union — were the worst figures since 1963.

The statistics showed that overall agricultural production was down two per cent on 1980, itself a

poor year for the Soviet farmer.

Production of potatoes, a basic item in an average Russian's meal when times are hard, was 72 million tonnes, the second poorest performance in 18 years.

The Soviet Union produced 189 million tonnes of grain in 1980 compared with the disaster year of 1975 when the harvest was 140 million tonnes.

Although the Western experts were cautious in their interpretations, it was clear that Moscow has suffered its third successive crop failure, depleting grain reserves and raising a question mark over food supplies.

The dairy herd rose by 200,000 to 43.6 million in 1981, but milk production dropped to its lowest level since 1973.

The U.S. department of agriculture estimates that Moscow will import 42 million tonnes of coarse grain and wheat to make up for the 1981 harvest shortfall.

A third poor harvest seems certain to increase shortages of meat, chronic in some parts of the Soviet Union, and lead to longer queues for less food.

The statistics for the end of the first year of the current five-year

plan suggested that a national "food programme" announced by President Brezhnev last year is unlikely to have any immediate impact on improving food supplies.

Abu Dhabi to build petroleum coke plant

DOHA, Jan. 24 (R) — A joint Gulf industrial consulting agency is conducting talks with Abu Dhabi on the setting up of a \$200-million 160,000-ton petroleum coke plant in the emirate, its secretary general said today.

He also told Reuters that Qatar was studying proposals by the seven-nation Doha-based Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consulting for a \$220-million acetic acid plant with an approximate annual capacity of 82,000 tons.

The secretary general, Dr. Abdullah Al Mujel, could not say when work on the projects would begin. But said that after getting the approval of Abu Dhabi and Qatar, his organisation would sound out member countries on possible contribution.

Under the agency's charter, at least four members should agree to participate in a project to give it the go-ahead and no one country can hold more than a 50 per cent share in any project.

Feasibility studies of both

Kuwait withdraws currency notes

KUWAIT, Jan. 24 (A.P.) — The government announced today it was withdrawing from circulation all currency notes of 10, five, half and quarter dinar.

The Central Bank of Kuwait announced that these notes, which bear pictures of the late Rulers of Kuwait—Sheikh Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah and Sheikh Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah—were to be withdrawn by the end of next May at the latest.

The decision, published in the official gazette, stipulates that the name value of these notes will be paid by the Central Bank and all commercial banks operating here, until May 31.

projects were approved by the organisation last month.

Experts from the organisation and Abu Dhabi will meet here early next month to finalise details on the proposed petroleum coke

plant, which would feed aluminium smelters in Bahrain and Dubai, Dr. Mujel said.

He said the plant would be set up at Al Ruwais refinery of the

government-owned Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) because of the low quantity of sulphur and metals in the residue there.

Chile feels the chills of economic recession

By Claude Regis

SANTIAGO — Chile's free market economy, until recently the healthiest in Latin America, has entered a period of severe recession which could have serious political repercussions.

This South American nation's much-vaunted economic miracle has suffered a series of setbacks over the past few months, revealing bitter differences among backers of the eight-year-old authoritarian government of President Augusto Pinochet.

Businessmen, farmers and bankers, once unconditional free market advocates, are now calling for the reintroduction of a degree of state intervention.

Official figures show that gross domestic growth is not expected to exceed three per cent for the second year running, after 8.2 per cent in 1979 and 8.3 in 1978, and many industries have started laying off workers.

The official unemployment rate for greater Santiago, where over a third of Chile's total population of 11 million lives, fell to 8.1 per cent in the July-September period.

This contrasts with 11.2 per cent for the same period in 1980 but independent economists say the real figure for July-September last year is closer to 15 per cent.

The construction boom of the

past few years is over and Santiago has an extraordinary number of unfinished buildings.

Support for the government among the working class is sagging and 10 unions recently walked out of the officially-backed confederation of metalworkers, miners, industry and trade workers of the private sector.

The Roman Catholic Church has issued calls for more social justice, but more ominous for the government is the fact that some influential sectors of the armed forces have joined the critics, reliable political sources said.

They, along with moderate members of the civilian opposition, fear widespread popular discontent.

Critics argue that the government's rigorously-pursued monetarist policies — which have earned the government's young technocrats the nickname of "Chicago boys" after the Chicago University School of Economics — have only benefited an already powerful and wealthy economic and financial elite.

They complain that these policies have opened Chile to a flood of cheap imports and subsidised foodstuffs which have hurt local manufacturers and farmers.

Finance Minister Sergio de Castro, 37, an enthusiastic disciple of U.S. monetarist guru Milton Friedman, is the main target for criticism.

He is identified with a fixed exchange rate of 39 pesos to the dollar, in force for the past two years, which critics say is unrealistic.

His main objective has been to check inflation which is expected to be reduced to eight per cent by year's end from 31 per cent last year and 340 per cent in 1975.

But his successful anti-inflation drives, critics argue, has hurt exports and encouraged superfluous imports, contributing to high interest rates averaging four per cent. Up to October last year, Chile's trade deficit had reached \$2 billion compared to \$1.1 billion for calendar year 1980.

President Pinochet recently blamed world recession for the country's current lacklustre economic performance.

He asked Chileans to tighten their belts until better times, while Mr. de Castro suggested wage reductions which some firms have already started negotiating with reluctant workers.

Most economists agree that Chile's open economy, with the elimination of almost all tariff

barriers, heavy foreign borrowing and dependence on copper for 60 per cent of its currency earnings, is particularly vulnerable to the worldwide economic slump.

Exceptionally low copper prices offer only a partial explanation for Chile's economic predicament.

Heavy foreign borrowing has helped maintain imports last year at a high level of six billion dollars, 44 per cent more than in 1980, while exports dropped 14 per cent to four billion.

"Apart from a few mining projects, too little borrowed money has gone into productive long-term investment schemes and far too much into imports of luxury consumer goods such as automobiles and colour television sets," one dependent economist said.

Chile's foreign debt stands at \$15 billion, the highest per capita figure in the world.

A devaluation of the peso, advocated by some pro-government economists, would boost exports, but President Pinochet has ruled out any change in the peso-dollar parity and confirmed Mr. de Castro in his job in his annual, year-end cabinet reshuffle.

Mr. de Castro believes in "automatic adjustments" of the free market economy mechanisms, which will see the present bout of recession reduce consumption and imports but will further aggravate unemployment.

Reliable political sources say a

growing number of military officers are uneasy over the ultra-liberal economic course which, they believe, has led to the current slowdown.

So called "nationalist" officers are complaining that the anti-communist revolution of 1973, when socialist President Salvador Allende was ousted in a bloody military coup, has made the rich richer and the poor poorer.

"Don't forget that the higher ranks of the Chilean army have been traditionally made up of a large number of populist and anti-oligarchy elements," one leading politician told Reuters.

He said there was growing fighting between two clearly-defined groups among Mr. Pinochet's closest aides, with ultra-liberal civilians led by Mr. Castro having the upper hand over military officers, at least for the time being.

The theory appeared to have been confirmed by the removal of Mining Minister Jose Pinera, a leading advocate of a peso devaluation, in the recent cabinet reshuffle.

"The pendulum may swing the other way if there is a severe and prolonged economic crisis," the politician said. But he added the removal of president Pinochet, who earlier last year embarked on eight more years of authoritarian rule under a new constitution, was unlikely in the present circumstances.

— Reuters

Books, books, books



FRANKFURT (INP) — West Germans devour mountains of books every year. A total of several hundred thousand tons of paper are processed in the production of books year for year. There were 85,000 new publications at the 1981 Frankfurt International Book Fair. In the period from 1951 to 1980 West German publishing companies have placed 972,221 titles on the market. According to UNESCO statistics, the Federal Republic of Germany ranks third in the world in book production after the Soviet Union and the United States.

The prestigious "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung" commented regretfully in a resume on the Fair that although there are more and more books there is "nothing to read". The newspaper goes on to say: "Of course this is a generalisation. But it is roughly true not only of numerous new publications on political or historical subjects such as biographies or memoirs, it also applies to areas indicative of the rank and vitality of a literature, i.e. novels, short stories, poetry, in brief, the works of both writers and poets."

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

22:00 News Headlines

CHANNEL 3

5:30 Koran
5:50 Laurel and Hardy
6:05 Children's Programme
6:25 Children's Programme
7:00 Local Programme
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Arabic Series
9:30 Panorama
10:10 Boxing
11:05 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00 French Programme
6:30 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Environmental Protection
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Taxi
9:10 Hart to Hart
10:00 News in English
10:15 Brideshead Revisited
11:05 News in Arabic

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM

7:00 Sign on
7:01 Morning Show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:45 Morning Show
8:00 News Headlines
8:03 Morning Show
8:30 30 minute Theatre
11:00 Sign off
12:00 News Headlines
12:03 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:03 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 The Elton John Story
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:03 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 French way of Life
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:03 Sports Round-up
18:30 North by Sea
19:30 News Desk
19:30 Instrumentals
20:30 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT

03:30 The Breakfast Show: 06:30

News, Pop music, features, listeners' questions 17:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analyses. 17:30 Dateline 18:00 Special English: news, feature "The Making of a Nation" 18:30 Now Music USA 19:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analyses. 19:30 VOA Magazine: Americana, science, culture, letters. 20:00 Special English: news 20:15 Music USA (Jazz) 21:00 VOA World Report 22:00 News. Correspondents' reports, background features, media comments, analyses.

AMMAN AIRPORT

NOTE: The following airport arrivals and departures are provided in the Jordan Times by the Air Information department at Amman Airport, Tel. 92205-6. They should always be verified by phone before the arrival or departure of the flight.

ARRIVALS

8:00 Cairo (EA)
8:55 Agaba
9:00 Cairo
9:00 Damascus
9:30 Jeddah
9:40 Dhahran
9:45 Kuwait
9:50 Muscat, Dubai
10:00 Doha, Bahrain
10:10 Beirut, Laraca
10:15 Abu Dhabi
10:55 Kuwait (SR)
14:00 Tripoli (LA)
14:25 Moscow (SU)
15:30 Kuwait (KAC)
15:35 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:25 Beirut
16:45 Bangkok
17:00 Athens
17:00 Cairo
18:00 London (BA)
18:05 Amsterdam, Beirut (KLM)
18:05 London (BA)
18:30 Paris (AF)
20:15 Cairo (EA)
20:30 Beirut (MEA)
20:30 Cairo (EA)
01:00 Baghdad
02:00 Baghdad

DEPARTURES:

03:00 Cairo
06:15 Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Damascus
07:00 Agaba
09:00 Cairo (EA)
09:25 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York
11:15 Athens
11:20 Cairo
11:45 Geneva, Zurich (SR)
12:00 Tunis, Madrid
12:00 Paris, London
12:30 Cairo (EA)
13:00 Beirut
15:10 Tripoli (LA)
15:30 Moscow (SU)
16:30 Kuwait (KAC)
16:35 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:15 Dhahran
19:30 Jeddah
20:15 Baghdad
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
21:30 Cairo (EA)
22:00 Baghdad
01:15 Cairo (EA)

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:

Amman:
Mohammad Al Suqi 76721
Abbas Al Hakim 91256
Zarqa:
Farah Al 'Aqirbawi 81923
Irbid:
Amin Abu 'Idah 468

PHARMACIES:

Amman:
Al Arabiyah Al Kubrah 23141
Basman 23784
Omar 42737
Al 'Aidin 72861
Ghassan 74497
Zarqa:
Al Quds (—)
Irbid: (—)

TAXIS:

Al Khayyam 41541
Al Ahram 63911
Al Nahda 63006
Bashar 71329
Zeid 64476

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 65195
Al Hussein Youth City 67181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.A. 64251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355/84366

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday to Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel. 64240.
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed on Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century oriental artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays. Tel. 30128

CHURCHES

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh 37440

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government) 75111
Civil Defence rescue 61111
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency) 71125-6-7-8
Police headquarters 39141
Najdeh roving patrol rescue police. (English spoken) 21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA) 92205/92206
Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal 101.4/104.5
Lebanese pound 72.2/72.7
Syrian pound 57.8/58.2
Iraqi dinar 625.6/631.7
Kuwaiti dinar 1205.3/1210.8
Egyptian pound 345.3/349.6
Qatari riyal 94.1/94.5
UAE dirham 93.3/93.6
Omani riyal 941.8/945.3
U.S. dollar 340.3/343
U.K. sterling 654.9/658.7
W. German mark 146.8/147.7
Swiss franc 183.1/184.2
French franc 57.6/57.9
Italian lire (for every 100) 27.4/27.6
Japanese yen (for every 100) 149.7/150.6
Dutch guilder 133.9/134.7
Belgian franc 86.2/86.7
Swedish crown 60.6/61

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr 5:12
Sunrise 6:34
Dhuhr 11:48
Asr 2:42
Maghreb 5:02
Isha 6:24

Telephone:

Information 12
Jordan and Middle East trunk calls 10
Overseas radio and satellite calls 17
Telephone maintenance and repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Broad Beans 400 300
Apples (Golden) 240 200
Apples (Double Red) 240 200
Apples (Starken) 220 180
Lemons 130 100
Oranges (Abu surra) 240 200
Oranges (Shamouti) 180 150
Oranges (local) 190 70
Oranges (French) 130 100
Sweet Pepper 90 70
Tangerine 220 180
Bomali 170 130
Carrot 170 140
Turnips 150 120
Chestnut 520 450
Grapefruit 100 70
Beet 150 120
Lettuce (a head) 60 40
Mandarin oranges 210 170

FEATURES

Cuban banditos enliven New York crime

By Arthur Spiegelman
Reuters

NEW YORK — One night last April, Pedro Lopez made a fatal mistake.

He climbed into the back seat of a car with a friendly young man he had just met in a Harlem bar, a

man who had recently emigrated from the Cuba that Lopez, 42, had left years before.

The man had offered Mr. Lopez a ride home, saying he wanted to hear stories of how it was in Cuba in the old days.

As the driver of the car later told a court, Mr. Lopez started to

get nervous and suddenly tried to shove \$400 he had with him, into his shirt when the young man said: "Why are you trying to hide that money, I'm going to kill you anyway."

With those words, 20-year old Felipe Rodriguez pulled out a .22 calibre pistol and fired six shots at

point-blank range at Lopez, killing him.

That murder, for which Rodriguez was sentenced this month to serve at least 25 years in jail, is, officials say, just one example of a new crime wave New York police have unexpectedly found themselves fighting — a war against hardened Cuban banditos (bandits) who arrived in the 1980 "freedom flotilla" of tens of thousands of refugees from Cuba.

In the past year, New York police have arrested about 1,000 Cubans who arrived in the 1980 flotilla for crimes ranging from robbery to murder, and officials say many of the offences bore the same hallmarks of casual brutality as the Lopez murder.

In Union City, New Jersey, a small, largely Cuban immigrant town, officials say arrests of new immigrants have averaged one a day for the past 18 months.

"This is a big serious problem that is only starting to get noticed up here now. About 125,000 people arrived in the flotilla and there is no question that Castro dumped the worst of the worst with them," said a spokesman for Bronx District Attorney Mario Merola.

He emptied his prisons, and frankly, to survive a Cuban prison you have to be tough. These are hardened guys who think there is an ice cream mountain up here. They think our system with its liberal safeguards is a joke," the spokesman added.

For a long time, the new Cuban criminals blended unnoticed in the Bronx, the most hispanic of the city's five boroughs, with police not realising who they were or how they operated.

They didn't notice, even though many of the criminals bore tell-tale tattoos — sometimes designs placed between their thumbs and forefingers to indicate criminal specialties such as drug trafficking, kidnapping and executions, sometimes markings placed inside their inner lips by Cuban police as a brand.

But soon several patterns emerged, including ones which have frightened police.

According to Bronx detective

Donald Benderoth, one of several New York policemen now studying the banditos, the men work in loosely-knit gangs of eight to 10, sometimes deciding on a crime, at a moment's notice.

"They seem to like big weapons like .38 calibre pistols and .9 mm semi-automatic rifles on the theory that ugly guns make ugly impressions and ugly impressions last. The .9 mm knocks you down faster and keeps you down," he said.

Other law enforcement officials say the Cuban banditos sometimes use three cars to stage a holdup — the occupants of one car go into a place to rob it, those in a second car wait directly outside to shoot potential escapers and gunmen in a third car wait across the street in case they are needed to mow down any police who may wander on to the scene.

The thought that this may become a common crime pattern has frightened officials, who fear that one day soon police in a squad car called to the scene of a holdup will be simply driving to their deaths.

"It is a miracle none of our police have been killed so far," one source said.

Most of the Cuban banditos encountered by police so far have had military training in addition to having served time in Cuban prisons.

"These guys are loosely organised now. But if their organisation improves, we could be witnessing the birth of a new Mafia in New York," one official said.

His view is disputed by other experts, including detective Benderoth, who feels that the banditos are not organisationally minded.

Mr. Benderoth says: "These people have been brutalised in Cuba. They were subjected to frequent beatings in Cuban jails. We have seen people with numerous scars that have never been stitched. Out of this brutality a certain kind of machismo has emerged. There is nothing you can do to hold a hammer over them."

"These guys all tell the same story — they claim they were political prisoners in Cuba."

The Cuban banditos have been making their way north to New York's hispanic enclaves from Florida where they first arrived from the port of Mariel in Cuba.

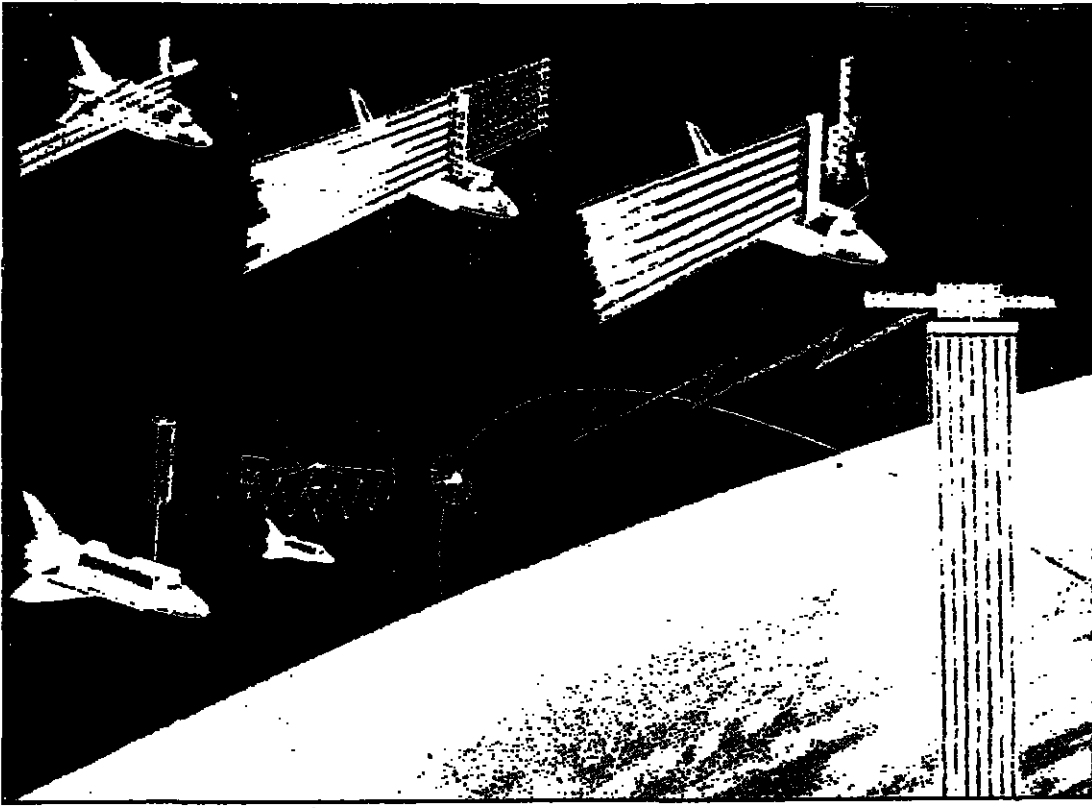
Florida officials blame "Marielista" criminals for a staggering rise in crime in Miami.

New York officials feel that the federal government could have tried harder to determine who these people were and to have kept records on them.

Record-keeping has now begun in the Bronx as police try to get information on the new breed of criminal they have to cope with.

And as they grapple with the problem many officials are bitter. The judge who sentenced Felipe Rodriguez for the murder of Pedro Lopez told the young man he had been allowed to enter the United States on "the mercy of our government and made a travesty of that mercy."

Shuttle turns master builder



In a sequential illustration, the shuttle is shown during

production of a solar power system project. At upper left, str-

uctural members are fabricated

by a beam builder. Next, solar array blankets are attached (second figure). The antenna, taken to orbit in modules, is assembled using a remote manipulator (third figure). At right, the solar array structure is in place and transmitting to a receiving station 15 kilometres away. The sequence at a lower left depicts the deployment of the receiving antenna, which is built on the ground and transmitted orbit by the shuttle.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VOIPT

DUGEF

YONNEA

NIRFIM

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: O O O O H I M O O O

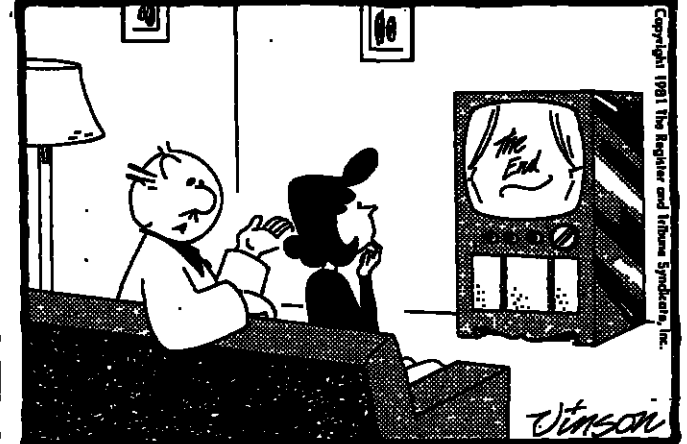
Saturday's Jumbles: BRASS ENJOY DISCUS HOTBED

Answer: In order to go straight one should follow this—HIS NOSE



THE BETTER HALF

By Vinson

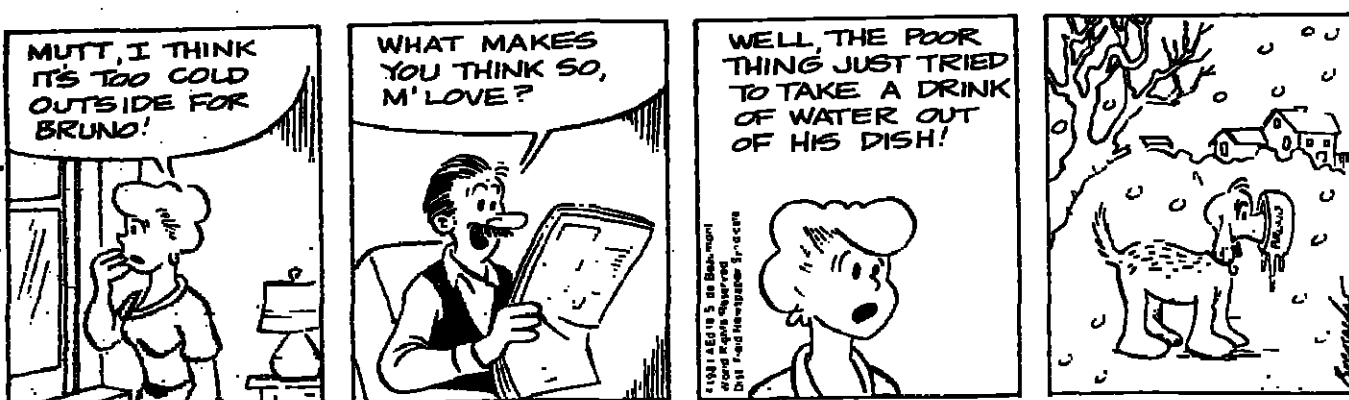


"Do you suppose the plot got scrambled when they bounced this movie off a satellite?"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



CAR FOR SALE

We have a silver Mitsubishi Galant 1981 Super Saloon in a very excellent condition. Fully automatic, conditioned, ran 9000 km. Customs duties are not paid. Net price JD 2,300.

Please call 21979 or 23869 between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. every day.

FOR RENT

An apartment consisting of three bedrooms, living room, dining room and other utilities, with central heating.

Location: Western Jabal Luweibdeh, behind Al Dustour Newspaper.
Please call: Tel. 25859, Amman.

FOR RENT

Modern furnished apartments

a) Two bedrooms
b) One bedroom
c) Studio

Centrally heated.

Location: a and b: Jabal Amman, between 3rd and 4th circles

c: Shmeisani, near Birds Garden.

Please contact tel. 41443

JORDAN T.V.
Programme Dep.CHANNEL 6
Tonight

BRIDESHEAD REVISITED

Episode 4

At Brideshead, during Easter of 1923, Charles realises that his friend is heading for trouble because of his excessive drinking. He tries to cover up for him, but Sebastian accuses him of being a spy for his mother. Ashamed and defiant, Sebastian leaves the university, and Charles returns home and asks his perplexed father if he can leave Oxford and study art.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JAN. 25, 1982

YOUR DAILY
Horoscope
from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: As the day advances you will have an awareness of what your associates expect of you and how you can best do what will please them the most. Be alert at all times.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Aug. 19) If you ask questions of associates you will know just where you stand with them. Be more cooperative with others.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study your work well and strive to become more efficient. Take charge of your diet and you can have better health.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Plan your entertainment for the future and take time to buy new items of attire. Show increased devotion to loved one.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Make a gift presentation to family members and engage in activities that are mutually enjoyed.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Contact persons who can assist you to become more efficient in your routines. Do something thoughtful for a friend.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't neglect details of an important financial affair. Be sure your bookkeeping records are correct. Be logical.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Employ your finest talents and gain the support of superiors. New allies can be helpful. Sociability is the keynote.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be sure to keep promises you have made. Obtain the data you need from the right source. Show that you are friendly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Look to a friend for the help you need to improve your surroundings. Show close associates that you are loyal to them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Engage in activities that will make your life more enjoyable. An influential person can assist you at this time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A fine day for obtaining information with debtors and creditors and make your life run more smoothly. Express happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Come to a better accord with family members. New associates can be helpful to you now. Think constructively.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will want to have order and neatness, and for this reason will accomplish a great deal in life since this is a logical mind. There is much marital happiness in this chart. Be sure to give ethical and religious training.

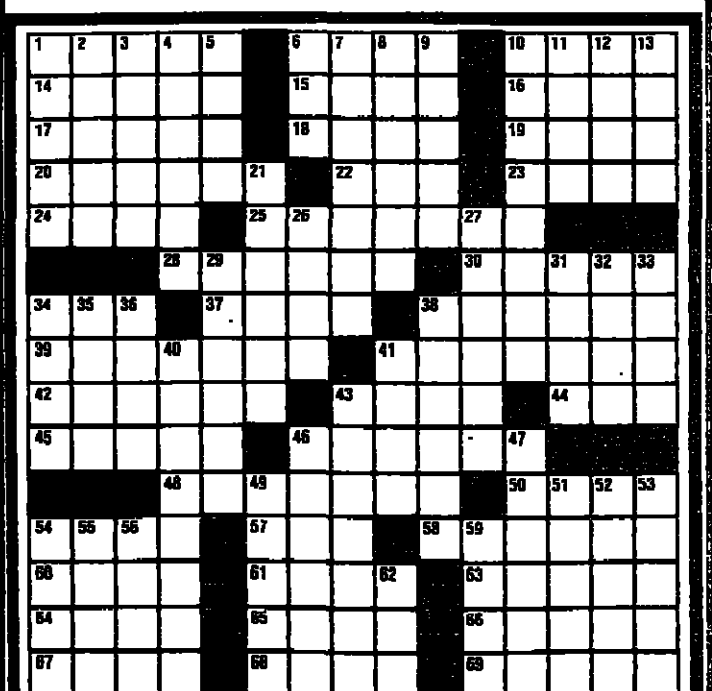
"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by H. Kermit Jackson

ACROSS	24 Saxon	48 Getting	21 Tom the
1 Play —	25 slave	50 Mild oath	26 Trudge
(ed)	26 witty	54 A Charles	27 Slow tempo
6 Secret	27 saying	57 Wing	29 Clear out
language	28 Arthurian	58 Spotted	31 Venetian
10 Minnesinger	29 island	game tile	resort
14 Stage	30 "La — Vita"	60 Leave	32 Winter
platform	34 This lady	61 Small sled	wear
15 Plane	37 Stratford's	63 The Word	33 Concludes
surface	river	64 Network	34 Tiff
16 Author	38 Pittance	of nerves	35 Moved a
Wiesel	39 Guarded	65 Molding	ship
17 Leave out	41 City on the	66 Wear away	36 Spirit
a syllable	Tigra	67 Singles	38 Unkempt
18 Ship pole	42 Embodiment	68 Uncommon	40 Battolo-
19 Position	43 Wise men	69 Joyce	gizes
of control	44 Lieutenant	Carol —	41 Gun sound
20 Flirt	prep: abbr.	45 Principle	43 Diamond
22 Cravat	46 Maine city		leader
23 Squirming			46 Caviar

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

CLASH	ARROY	ACHIE
WHITE	SCOPE	SLAP
SELL	TEMPS	WACIO
STOPPING	THANKS	
MURK	HAIR	
SAGAS	CHECKMATE	
APPOINT	AMIT	
NAME	AMUSE	SOUR
ARM	SWAIN	SPONGE
STALEMATE	DUQUET	
TITEN	CELL	
ABRASIT	PLAYMATE	
NOON	EGGITY	AIKAI
ANNA	RODIE	ATAI
TEES	STERN	EXIT

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WORLD

As Jaruzelski prepares major policy statement Catholic primate calls for truth and dialogue to end Polish crisis

WARSAW, Jan. 24 (R) — Polish Roman Catholic Primate Archbishop Jozef Glemp addressed the nation today and called for truth and dialogue on the eve of a major policy statement by military leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Archbishop Glemp, in a nationally broadcast address, said: "I have been compelled to speak out by voices full of pain and distress, plagued by impatience due to prolonged misery."

The primate, broadcasting to the nation for the first time as leader of Poland's powerful Catholic Church, echoed earlier pleas for dialogue between the authorities and society.

His sermon, together with a pastoral message demanding an end to martial law, added momentum to opposition to military rule.

Tension has built up in anticipation of tomorrow's state of the nation speech which Gen. Jaruzelski will deliver to the Polish parliament (Sejm).

Police reinforcements were visible in Warsaw over the weekend apparently to ensure against any trouble during the two-day session of parliament.

The general's aides say he will announce some major policy changes to win support from the nation.

"There will be some important concessions," government spokesman Jerzy Urban said.

Poles, weary after 18 months of political and social upheaval and shaken by the military takeover, are now fearful of huge price rises to come.

But the general's opponents, who accuse him of protecting the ruling Communist establishment, say they expect only cosmetic improvements, like further minor relaxations of martial law.

They say the takeover, which the general justified to avert civil war, has gone badly wrong.

"He may announce that we can now talk by telephone through the operator from one city to another but I cannot see him announcing any talks with Solidarity which touch on political reality," an underground political activist said.

Most of Solidarity's elected leaders, including union chief Lech Walesa, have been interned or detained since the military takeover.

over and all attempts to establish a bridge between them and the authorities have failed.

Archbishop Glemp warned in his pastoral message today, to be delivered from Poland's 18,000 pulpits, that curbs of freedom, could lead to protest, rebellion and even war.

Communist politburo hardliner Albin Siwak was quoted today as saying he believed Solidarity leaders should be put on trial for fomenting anarchy over the past 16 months.

One of the first tasks facing the Sejm after Gen. Jaruzelski's speech will be to legalise martial law and the accompanying decrees which drastically curbed civil freedom in Poland, providing for the suspension of Solidarity and the theoretically indefinite internment of some 5,000 political dissenters.

Sejm deputies acknowledge that the decrees are technically illegal because they were promulgated by the largely ceremonial Council of State when parliament was still in session.

But no one is likely to challenge them on this technicality. One of the council of state members who refused to sign the original martial law proclamation, Ryszard Reiff, has subsequently lost his job.

Parliament, which changed from a rubber stamp chamber into a lively debating forum during Solidarity's heyday, is expected to be in a subdued mood.

Most of Solidarity's elected leaders, including union chief Lech Walesa, have been interned or detained since the military takeover.

ADK-EN-PROVENCE, France, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — An Armenian guerrilla suspect was jailed for two years last night for trying to kill the Turkish ambassador to Switzerland in 1980 in Bern.

Court officials said Max Kilnajan, a French citizen, should be freed almost immediately because of the amount of time he spent in prison awaiting trial.

Mr. Kilnajan, who said he was innocent, was tried in France, where he was arrested, because France does not extradite its nationals.

About 1,000 Armenian sympathisers gathered outside the courthouse during the two-day trial.

The crowd, many of whom had travelled from cities throughout France to show support for Mr. Kilnajan during his two-day trial,

greeted the jury's verdict with loud cheers of "Long live France," "Long live the Armenian people and French justice," and "We've won, liberate Kilnajan."

French-Armenians had strived, to give the trial political overtones by demanding recognition of what they called the genocide of 1.5 Armenian people in Turkey in 1915. The Turkish government has never recognised the massacre.

Mr. Kilnajan had been accused in the Feb. 6, 1980, assassination attempt in Bern against Turkish Ambassador to Switzerland Dogman Turkmen.

Mr. Turkmen was slightly wounded when a group of attackers opened fire on his car. Responsibility for the attack was claimed by a group called the Commando of the Judges of the Armenian Genocide.

Mr. Kilnajan was apprehended in Marseille 48 hours later on an international arrest warrant issued by Swiss authorities. He admitted he had rented a vehicle used in the attempted assassination, but denied taking part in the attack or having any knowledge of what the car was to be used for.

"I don't know if I would be capable of firing a shot at anyone, even for the Armenian cause," he told the court during the trial.

Two prosecution witnesses, however, testified they had seen the accused at the scene of the crime. The ambassador's personal body guard and his chauffeur told the court Mr. Kilnajan had fired the shots at Mr. Turkmen.

The defence presented witnesses who mainly testified about the history of Armenian persecution in Turkey. One of the witnesses was Mr. Kilnajan's 70-year-old mother, who told of how most of her family had been killed by Turks.

"I was only eight years old when he happened, but I remember it as if it was yesterday," she testified. "They burned my grandmother alive in our house. I heard the screams of the others while they butchered them. My mother and I escaped to the hills nearby and eventually made our way to Marseille."

MOSCOW, Jan. 24 (R) — The Kremlin fiercely denounced the leadership of the Italian Communist Party under Enrico Berlinguer today and said it was steering the party away from the very basis of communism.

The attack, in the Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda, said the leadership of the Italian Party (PCI) had adopted positions that directly helped anti-communist forces in the world.

Relations between the two parties appeared to be near breaking point following today's attack against the independent-minded Italian movement which has taken a strong anti-Soviet line on Poland.

Referring to Mr. Berlinguer's denunciation of the Dec. 13 military takeover in Poland, Pravda said the PCI leadership had used the Polish crisis as a pretext for putting forward views that denigrated world socialism and the Soviet role in building it.

Pravda accused PCI leaders of showing sympathy for right-wing extremists from the Polish free trade union Solidarity and dismissed Mr. Berlinguer's call for greater freedoms in the Soviet bloc.

The PCI leaders, Pravda said, envisaged offering "freedom of action for those who, trampling socialist legality underfoot, and using assistance from outside, are trying to undermine the socialist system."

"And in fact, these people have no such freedom in the countries of real socialism for to give them it would mean not to consolidate, but to subvert, the foundations of a new socialist system," it said.



The front (left) and back (right) views of the World Airways DC-10 jetliner which skidded off the runway at Boston Logan International Airport Saturday night (A.P. wirephoto)

DC-10 slides off runway, plunges into harbour

BOSTON, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — A World Airways DC-10 carrying 208 people slid off the end of an icy runway and plunged part way into Boston Harbour last night as it landed at Logan International Airport. No one was seriously hurt, although the plane's cockpit broke off and threw the crew into the water.

Everyone on board was safe and accounted for, said Edwidge Chandler, the airline's station manager. "Everyone's out," he said.

Airport spokeswoman Carolyn Walden earlier said 11 people had not reported to authorities after the crash, but they were later found.

Police said the plane came to rest partially submerged in the frigid sea water at about 7:30 p.m. "God certainly has been good to us," said one female passenger clutching a baby.

At least 33 people were taken, some on stretchers, to hospitals in Boston and nearby Winthrop. But Jo Ryan, a spokeswoman for the Massachusetts Port Authority, said none of the injuries appeared to be serious.

The most serious injuries were exposure to the frigid water and back troubles, said Martin Bander, a hospital spokesman.

The accident occurred 10 days after an Air Florida Boeing 737 clipped a bridge shortly after take-off at Washington's National Airport and plunged into the Potomac River, killing 78 people.

The wide-bodied DC-10 of World Airways was carrying 196 passengers and 12 crew on a flight from Oakland, California via a stopover in Newark, New Jersey, when it landed in icy and rainy weather at Boston.

An airport official said the plane had already landed and was taxiing when "something happened" and it plunged into the harbour.

Passengers told of a normal landing but said the plane skidded at the end of the runway while taxiing and hit a barrier before sliding into the freezing water.

The airport official said most of the passengers came off by themselves. There was no danger of the plane's sinking and the captain checked that everybody was off and accounted for before he left the plane.

One of the passengers, Cindy Miller, from Lee, Florida said: "It was terrifying, but I'm just glad to be safe." A rescuer carried Mrs. Miller's two-year-old son in his arms.

Pilot Peter Langly was admitted to Boston City Hospital with "non-critical soft tissue injuries," a hospital spokesman said. Copilot Don Hertzfeldt, 38, was treated for immersion at Massachusetts General.

"The front end of the plane flew off," said passenger Jerry Podesta, 22, of Philadelphia. He was splashed with water while in his seat.

Only the rear of the plane was visible in the water at the end of the runway, but most people on board slid down chutes from the rear of the craft and waded ashore through knee-deep water.

Many passengers, shaken but unhurt, were taken away from the accident scene on buses and vans. Some were still wearing inflatable life vests.

"The plane slid off the end of the runway," said one snowplow operator. "When I got there, there were people there getting passengers out of the water."

The accident occurred as the plane landed in light rain and fog on an ice-glazed runway at the airport, which borders the harbour. The National Weather Service said the visibility was 2.4 kilometres.

King Carlos, Queen Sofia leave for visit to India

MADRID, Jan. 24 (A.P.) — King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia flew today to New Delhi for a week-long official visit to India as guest of President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy.

The royal couple, accompanied by Foreign Affairs Minister Jose Pedro Perez Llorca, will stay in New Delhi until Jan. 27 and then they will go to Madras from where they plan to return home Jan. 31.

During their stay in India King Carlos will have talks with President Reddy and also with Premier Indira Gandhi.

Pravda raps Italian Communist leaders

MOSCOW, Jan. 24 (R) — The Kremlin fiercely denounced the leadership of the Italian Communist Party under Enrico Berlinguer today and said it was steering the party away from the very basis of communism.

The attack, in the Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda, said the leadership of the Italian Party (PCI) had adopted positions that directly helped anti-communist forces in the world.

Relations between the two parties appeared to be near breaking point following today's attack against the independent-minded Italian movement which has taken a strong anti-Soviet line on Poland.

Soviet embassy rebukes Lisbon for expulsions

LISBON, Jan. 24 (R) — The Soviet Union today rebuked Portugal for expelling two of its diplomats and said the action would have severe consequences on relations between the two countries.

A Soviet embassy statement said Portuguese charges that the mission's press section chief and a commercial attache had violated their diplomatic status were without any foundation.

The action "naturally gravely prejudiced Soviet-Portuguese relations, a fact that the embassy can only regret," the statement said.

The expulsion on Friday followed a statement earlier this month by Portuguese Foreign Minister Andre Goncalves Pereira that his country was thinking of cutting the size of the Soviet embassy in Lisbon as part of the West's response to the military crackdown in Poland.

Relations between Portugal and the Soviet Union were already strained by Lisbon's refusal to grant an entry visa to a senior Kremlin official who was due to address a Portuguese Communist Party rally.

The three-member commission is to be received tomorrow by President Frank Albert Rene after its first working session with a Seychelles coordinating body set up to help the U.N. panel.

The other members of the U.N. commission are Jeremy Michael Craig of Ireland and Katsumi Sezaki of Japan, also U.N. envoys.

Asked if the commission would visit South Africa as part of the inquiry, Mr. Ozores told airport reporters that he was still trying to get clarification of the South African government's position.

Visit to S. Africa unclear

South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha said in a statement yesterday that his government has no objection to a visit by the commission but that none of the accused or witnesses in the case would be compelled to grant interviews.

Forty-five men, including the alleged leader of the coup attempt, Col. Michael "Mad Mike" Hoare, have been charged with hijacking in the affair and are due to stand trial in the Natal supreme court in Pietermaritzburg on March 10.

The mercenaries allegedly commandeered an Air-India jetliner to escape from the Seychelles amid a battle with the Seychelles defence forces which started after a customs officer found an automatic weapon in the suitcase of one of the men.

"If after our stay here, our going to South Africa still remains unclear, we will have to include it in our report to the United Nations Security Council," Mr. Ozores said.

"But we think that while in Seychelles we can receive more information about the exact purpose of the answer from the South African government."

Permission for the commission to enter South Africa was given in a letter to Mr. Ozores from South African U.N. Representative David Steward. But Mr. Steward cautioned that the case was "sub judice" — in the hands of the courts — and that the defendants and witnesses could not be compelled to talk with commission members.

The commission, created last December by the Security Council at the request of the Seychelles, was met at Pointe Laue airport by Foreign Minister Jacques Hodouin and the Seychelles charge d'affaires at the United Nations, Mrs. Giovanna Gonthier.

The body plans to visit the Southern African kingdom of Swaziland after completing its work in the Seychelles. A scheduled Royal Swazi Airways flight brought the mercenary force to the Seychelles.

The force travelled by chartered bus from South Africa to Swaziland and came to the Seychelles posing as members of a drinking club. The coup bid was reportedly at least partly financed by wealthy Seychellois exiles opposed to President Rene's socialist government.

Specifically, as a model for the development of these centres Dr. Zikria outlined a detailed plan for founding an institute of Islamic health sciences, comparable to such medical centres of research and training as the national institutes of health in the United States.

The Islamic institute would link traditional medicine with that of modern scientific medicine.

Dr. Zikria said his proposal was well received, and he noted attendance at the convention of several representatives of the health ministries of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. He expects that his proposal will be discussed at a meeting of the International Organisation of Islamic Medicine (founded last year) in Kuwait, March 27 to April 2.

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Zia-Mitterrand talks to centre on global issues

PARIS, Jan. 24 (R) — Pakistan's President Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq arrives tomorrow for talks with President Francois Mitterrand of France which French presidential aides said are aimed at establishing a direct personal relationship for tackling world problems.

The Pakistani president added the visit to France just before he set out on a European tour which has taken him to Italy, Romania and Yugoslavia.

President Zia's visit comes less than two months after Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi came to Paris to discuss arms purchases including France's latest combat aircraft, the Mirage 2000.

France and India are also about to sign a technology cooperation agreement.

The Pakistani president, who was last in Paris in September 1980, will spend two days in France before flying to Saudi Arabia.

Relations between France and Pakistan have considerably improved since 1976 when France, under U.S. pressure, cancelled a deal to supply a nuclear fuel reprocessing plant which would have enabled Pakistan to extract weapons-grade plutonium.

In Rome this week, President Zia denied reports that he would discuss reviving the agreement with President Mitterrand.

Pakistan considers that its nuclear contract with France is still valid. "We want France to implement it," one Pakistani official said, "but this question is not on the agenda."

President Mitterrand reviewed France's nuclear export policy at a meeting of his inner council last month and officials said afterwards that the government decided to tighten controls to prevent atomic weapons proliferation.

President Zia will arrive from Belgrade and will drive straight to the Elysee Palace for lunch and talks with the French president.

Their discussions will cover Afghanistan, East-West relations, the Polish crisis, the Iraq-Iran conflict, the Middle East and the situation in the Indian Ocean, according to French and Pakistani officials.

Pakistan shares France's view that the crisis over Poland should not lead to a confrontation with the Soviet Union, they said.

But at the same time everything must be done to avoid a Soviet military intervention in Poland, one official said.

Pressure must also be maintained on the Soviet Union to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan, he added.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi discussed the Afghanistan crisis and other problems with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson in New York last September when they attended the U.N. General Assembly.

Senior French and Pakistani officials will meet in Islamabad in April for the next round of regular Franco-Pakistani consultations.

President Zia is also expected to review with Mr. Mitterrand progress in talks between rich and poor countries, the so-called North-South dialogue, the officials said.

Jesus married Mary Magdalene, staged crucifixion, had descendants?

The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail shakes up Church, critics, believers

By Mark S. Smith
The Associated Press

LONDON — Church leaders are angry and the critics divided over a book that suggests Jesus married, staged the crucifixion and has living descendants. But the public was reported snapping up copies of "The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail."

Marilyn Edwards, spokesman for publishers, Jonathan Cape Ltd., called sales "really phenomenal." Though she wouldn't disclose exact figures, she said first printings had been exhausted on the first day, the first day of publication, and another printing of over 10,000 had been ordered.

London bookstores that ordered 200 and 300 copies at £8.95 (about \$17) were reporting their stock exhausted by first-day sales, she said. The book goes on sale in the United States in February.

The book, by British writer-filmmaker Henry Lincoln, 51, American novelist Richard Leigh, 30, and New Zealand researcher Michael Baigent, 34, is based on more than 10 years of historical research, including what the authors say are newly discovered and deciphered documents that throw new light on medieval history.

The essence of their contention is that a secret society called the Priore de Sion was founded in the 11th century, and from that day until this, has been protecting Jesus' descendants to prepare the way for his return to power through the accession of his divine offspring.

Building upon that thesis, the authors propose that the reason Jesus had descendants was that he married Mary Magdalene, had at least one child by her and survived the crucifixion with the help of his disciples and Roman co-conspirators.

The book suggests Mary and the children fled to southern France, where their descendants' bloodline mingled with that of the Franks and came down through the Carolingian kings of the Middle Ages to modern European noble houses. Jesus' fate was more obscured, but he was likely to have fled the Middle East, it says.

One of Jesus' supposed descendants, the Duke of Devonshire, terms the volume "absolutely obnoxious... it will upset a great many people... good, honest Christian folk."

"Absurd," says the Right Rev. Hugh W. Montefiore, the Church of England's bishop of Birmingham and official spokesman on matters of biblical research. "It is a sign of the degeneracy of our times."

"The thesis is incredible in its most recent sense," says the Rev. John Crowley, private secretary to Roman Catholic Cardinal Basil Hume.

"What next," asked BBC Television commentator Barry Norman in an arts programme segment on the book, "Son of Jesus Christ?"

Other criticism ranged from novelist Anthony Burgess, writing somewhat favourably in the Observer, to Marina Warner, lampooning the book in the Sunday Times under a cartoon showing an angel saying, "If Jesus marries, I hope it's a nice Jewish girl."

Burgess wrote: "These young men are no fools — they have energy, enthusiasm tempered by scepticism."

Warner wrote that the assembly of evidence put her in mind of cutting Jigsaw puzzle pieces to make them fit together. The scholarly references, she says, "are all heaped up and linked and squeezed to press them into significant, earthshaking coherence."

The authors, who call themselves agnostics, deny that. "We had not, in the beginning, set out to prove or disprove anything," they say in their concluding chapter. Rather, they began by investigating a local legend in the hilltop southern France village of Rennes-le-Chateau about a 19th-century priest who amassed great wealth because he knew some great church secret. "We were led to a startling, controversial and seemingly preposterous conclusion," they write. ("We could not... and still cannot prove the accuracy of our conclusion. It remains, to some extent at least, an hypothesis. But it is a plausible hypothesis... and, so far as we are concerned... constitutes a more historically likely account than any we have encountered of the events and personages which, 2,000 years ago, imprinted themselves on Western consciousness.")

The authors concede their account will be considered blasphemous by Rome. "But we do not believe that we have desecrated, or even diminished, Jesus in the eyes of those who do genuinely revere him..."